

OKTOBERFEST '97



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Conestoga news

Oktoberfest editorial

Conestoga connects to community

In a small way, Conestoga College is a bit like a desert island. Oceans of industrial parks and streams of highways form a vast backdrop to this grouping of trees and buildings that students, staff and faculty often call "the school."

Away from the homes we live in and the places we play, Conestoga's coordinates are 12 degrees north of Nowhere and 10 degrees west of Way The Heck Out There.

Neither in Cambridge nor in Guelph, not in Waterloo nor really in Kitchener, Conestoga seems a geographical compromise — both far away and close to everything.

On the edge of our large and

well-groomed grounds stand tall steel fences where cold October winds spin coffee cups and cigarette papers.

With only a few outside phone lines, a satellite dish and two jam-packed public buses connecting us to downtown Anywhere, it is easy for Conestogans to feel connected to nothing but ourselves.

Perhaps nowhere is this feeling of being isolated and insular stronger than in Spoke, Conestoga's weekly newspaper.

Week after week, and for far too long, Spoke reporters have tried to turn nine buildings and its human contents into a twirling automatic story processor.

We have interviewed, photographed, written about and pretty much skinned alive anything that even smelled like a story.

With editors and faculty on one end, and reporters on the other, we have grabbed hold of Conestoga like a giant beach towel and wrung this place and everyone in it dry.

Enter our special Oktoberfest edition. With this collection of off-campus stories, we tried to build a bridge to the communities that surround us. Not so much to ignore Conestoga, but to keep one eye on the place we go to school and work, while keeping another eye on the places we go to play.

We have not so much put

Conestoga on hold, as we have placed it on simmer. The upturning of garbage cans, interrogations and eavesdropping may have slowed, but our ears are still to the ground. For this reason, we have included a few key pieces of Conestoga news in our special edition. In particular, the tragic news that a Conestoga student died in a car accident.

For the most part, however, we hazarded a guess that the people who populate Conestoga are as interested in the things they do when they are not at Conestoga, as they are interested in the things they do when they are here. Oktoberfest seemed a timely place

to stretch out into these new territories.

Over the years, Oktoberfest organizers have tried to shift public interest away from the beer halls toward some of the family and cultural events offered in the region during this time of year. We have tried to follow that lead.

Put another way, we hope there is something in this edition for all members of Conestoga's community.

In the meantime, pardon our ship of roving reporters as we steer through to unknown lands. Pardon us too while we try "keeping Conestoga connected" in perhaps a broader sense of the words.

United Way makes a splash

By Greg Bisch

Despite a lack of support, sounds of popping, splashing and swishing managed to emanate from Conestoga's Doon cafeteria Oct. 14 during this year's Kick Off the United Way Campaign.

"It's not overly busy here," said volunteer and first-year recreation student Tammy Hoiting. "I don't think people are totally aware of what is going on."

Recreational leadership teacher Greg Burns conceded there were some problems with advertising for the event.

However, some students did come out to enjoy such activities as putting, balloon bursting and basket-ball throwing. One event allowed students to throw water-soaked sponges, using their peers as targets. The targets volunteered for the abuse.

Another event entitled Jail House allowed students to pay to have a friend jailed in a corner of the cafeteria. Victims of the prison prank would in turn pay to bail themselves out.

Such fun cost participants 25 to 50 cents a person. Prizes for the activities were raffle tickets for various items, such as stuffed toys, which were donated by local businesses, said Hoiting. Raffle tickets were also sold for \$1 a piece or 10 for \$5.

All money raised by the event went to United Way and towards Conestoga College's goal of raising \$27,500 for the charity organization this year, said Eleanor Conlin, co-chair of the United Way campaign of 1997.

The whole event was organized by first-year students in Greg Burn's recreation and leisure services class.

"They asked for volunteers in our class," said Hoiting. "No one put up their hand, so I thought I might as well."

Many of Hoiting's classmates followed her example of generosity and put a great deal of effort into the day.

All volunteers were also responsible for finding the businesses to donate the prizes.



Accounting student Jeff Fritch takes aim at fellow students with a wet sponge at the United Way Campaign Kick Off in the cafeteria Oct. 14.

(Photo by Alison Shadbolt)

"All the students that volunteered, as well as Greg Burns, must get the credit," said Hoiting. "Most of the donations came from Fairview Mall and the Zehrs plaza just down the road. Many of us brought in prizes donated by our work."

On Oct. 15, the day after the kick off, two Conestoga staff groups presented checks to the United Way cause, said Conlin. A cheque for \$240 was donated to the charity

by the Conestoga Support Staff Union and Double M&M Cleaners, local 238.

Following suit, the Employees of Conestoga Faculty Union, local 237, donated a cheque for \$250.

The money the United Way receives from the college will go to the aid of several local charities, including St. John's Ambulance, the House of Friendship and the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, said Conlin.

Conestoga student dies in car crash

By Rachel Pearce

Tragedy struck on Thanksgiving weekend when a Conestoga College nursing student, Melissa Hare, 19, of the Lucknow area near Goderich, died from injuries sustained in a single-car crash in the early hours of Sunday, Oct. 12.

Wingham OPP said the accident occurred at about 2 a.m. on North Street in Turnberry Township, when the driver of the car, 19-year-old Cheryl Allen, of RR 4 Wingham, lost control of the car which left the roadway, went into the ditch, rolled and struck a hydro pole with its roof.

Both Hare and Allen were rushed to Wingham District Hospital, where they died from

their injuries.

Another passenger in the car, 22-year-old Bruce Tanner, of Wingham, was taken to Wingham District Hospital with serious injuries and was later transferred to London, where he remains in serious condition.

Attending officer Const. John Marshall reported there was no evidence of any alcohol being involved, but that there was excessive speed on a gravel road. The car, a 1991 Dodge, was totalled, he said.

Nancy Hacking, chair of the certificate health sciences programs, said third-year practical nursing students were to be excused from classes Wednesday so they could attend Hare's funeral, held in Lucknow, if they wished.

Referee sees a lot of a Lambton Lion

By L.Scott Nicholson

Officials at the Oct. 8 men's soccer game, which pitted the Conestoga Condors against the Lambton Lions, got a little more than they bargained for.

The game was plagued by rough play from the Lambton team. Referee Tony Camacho was prompted to issue three red cards to Mike Furtado, Nathan Bradley and Dave Shearon and finally ended the game at the 25-minute mark of the second half.

The game was declared an official match and the Condors won 4-1.

Once a player is given a red card, he is to change his shirt and leave the field immediately.

After being given a red card,

Bradley walked to the sidelines and quickly pulled down the front of his shorts to reveal his genitals.

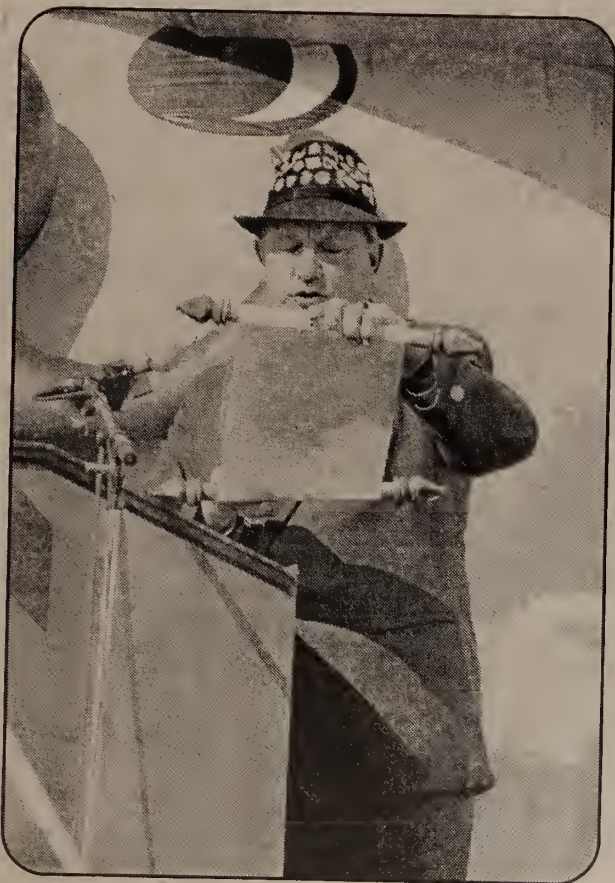
He then proceeded to give the referee a middle finger salute.

Referee Camacho witnessed the entire sequence of events and indicated to Bradley that he was going to be written up and the incident would be reported to the Ontario Collegiate Athletic Association (OCAA) league office.

Camacho is a Federation of International Football Association (FIFA) certified referee whose officiating record includes international matches.

Conestoga Condor coach Geoff Johnstone said the problem was not Camacho but a Lambton coach who couldn't control his players.

Opening ceremonies



International beginning for local festival

Thousands of people packed the area around Kitchener City Hall Oct. 10, including people from around the world, for the opening of Oktoberfest.

On stage for the official opening of the festival, were over 20 politicians and business leaders, including four local MPs, two MPPs and the mayors of Kitchener and Waterloo. Also on hand were Ontario Minister of Labor Elizabeth Witmer and Canadian Heritage Minister Sheila Copps.

Copps said the festival was an example of the diversity that makes Canada a great country.

The crowd applauded all the guests, but the largest claps went to the president of Brick Brewing Company, Jim Brickman, and Dave Perkins from Molson Breweries.

There were also mayors from five different Waterloos around the world, including one from Sierra Leon in Africa and the mayor of the original Waterloo in Belgium.

The Consul General of Germany, Dr. Wiprecht von Treskow, was also at the opening ceremonies. He said this was his first time attending an Oktoberfest festival, and for him, it would always be the true Oktoberfest.

The Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest is the largest Bavarian festival in North America and this year, the festival is celebrating its

29th anniversary.

The original Oktoberfest began in Munich, Germany in 1810 after a royal marriage. The family invited people to watch a horse race and served beer and food.

After Kitchener Mayor Richard Christy read the scroll officially opening the nine-day festival, it was time for the keg to be tapped.

The tapping was done by Copps, who much to the crowd's delight, successfully chugged a beer.

The crowd was also entertained by several groups, including the Kensington String Band, the Transylvania Hot Brau Band and perennial favorite, Walter Ostanek.

Also entertaining the crowd was the Grainbach Folkdance Group from Germany. The entertainers stood on barrels, singing songs to the cracking of horsewhips and letting out the occasional scream to amuse festival goers.



Above — Miss Oktoberfest, Danica Quinn, is introduced to the crowd during the opening ceremonies.

Left — Kitchener mayor, Richard Christy, officially opens the 29th annual Oktoberfest.

Story and photos by
Corey Jubenville

IT'S FLU SEASON! GET YOUR FLU VACCINE AT THE HEALTH & SAFETY OFFICE

Until late-November we will be giving Flu Vaccine injections from 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. daily.

If you are in a high-risk category (e.g. if you have Diabetes, Asthma, Heart or Respiratory problems) the vaccine is free of charge. Otherwise the cost is \$10.00.

As a limited number of vaccines are available, please sign up now at the Health & Safety office (inside Door #3).

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Competitive events

CHARGE!

A perfect day for a mountain bike race



Two riders navigate a corner, around a tree during the Ziggy's Mountain Bike race October 12. (Photo by L. Scott Nicholson)

By L. Scott Nicholson

The sights and smells of dying leaves were in the air on a crisp Oct. 12 morning as a hardy group of cycling enthusiasts donned their tights and helmets. They gathered in the bushes of Homer Watson Park while the rest of Kitchener-Waterloo slept off their hangovers.

The riders were attempting to manoeuvre their knobby-tired bicycles up, down and across various difficult terrains at excessive speeds as they took part in what has become an Oktoberfest tradition, the 10th annual Ziggy's Oktoberfest Mountain Bike and Cyclo-cross Race. Ziggy Martuzalski, race organizer and owner of Ziggy's Cycle and Exercise Equipment said he was very pleased with the way the races turned out.

Martuzalski said there were over 300 riders registered this year, compared to last year's 250 riders.

There was also an increase in the number of spectators at this year's race. He said throughout the day there were between 2,500 and 3,000 spectators taking in the day's events.

Martuzalski attributed the race's success to a number of factors.

He said more advertising in local papers helped bring out spectators, but nothing helped more than the perfect weather.

"Some people came intending to



One of over 300 riders speeds through the bushes of Homer Watson Park during the 10th annual Ziggy's Oktoberfest Mountain Bike race on October 12. (Photo by L. Scott Nicholson)

watch the race, while other spectators came upon the races accidentally as they were taking a walk through the park," he said.

Adam Martuzalski, a member of Ziggy's Cycling Club and Ziggy's son, said racers from all over Ontario were attracted to the event.

He said a lot of racers from out of town usually book a hotel room and make a weekend of taking in fests, the parade and, of course, the race.

One father, Steven MacKenzie from Georgetown, whose son Alex was racing in a beginner's race, said he and his son took a quieter approach to the Bavarian festival.

They braved the frigid evening temperatures and camped at Bingeman's for the weekend.

"We came early to have a trial ride on the course to see what it was like," the elder MacKenzie

said.

Other riders chose the get-in, get-out approach. Craig MacIntosh, who raced in the 19-and-over senior expert category, arrived only an hour before his race.

MacIntosh, who works in Toronto as a bike courier, said as soon as he was done racing he was driving back to Toronto to shower and go to a wedding.

While some riders were racing for their first time, others were in the hunt for valuable points on the Ontario Cup racing circuit.

Paul Cobham, Josh Hall and Andrew Caird finished first, second and third respectively in the highest level, known as the over-19 senior elite group.

Karen Mogg and Maria Dilello finished first and second respectively in the women's over-19 senior elite group.

Race coordinator predicts success for inaugural race

By Andrea Bailey

The first annual Oktoberfest five- and 10-kilometre runs will take place Oct. 19, and the race directors are happy with the number of people who have registered.

Julie Schmidt said the run, which is in support of Kitchener's St. Mary's Hospital, has also been chosen to host the Canadian national championships for 10-kilometre runners. Those who do well in the run, she said, will compete in Japan next year.

"We are excited because it will bring high-calibre runners to the area," said Schmidt. "Our local runners are also impressive. We are expecting an exciting race."

Schmidt said the nationals always fit into an existing race. There is never an event solely for the nationals, she said. Though this is the first year the races have been in support of St. Mary's, there have been similar runs in the past on the same day in support of Grand River Hospital, she said.

Schmidt said the Grand River Hospital committee felt the event would be too much work this year,

so they declined to be involved. She said the race committee then approached St. Mary's Hospital, who gladly accepted the offer.

"As race organizers, we feel that it is good to support all hospitals in the local area," said Schmidt. "This year it is at St. Mary's. Next year, it could very well be back at Grand River. Then, we'll probably move on to Freeport Hospital, then the Cambridge hospital."

"We are really encouraged by the widespread support this year, especially from elementary and secondary schools in the area."

Schmidt said the organizers will be giving away long-sleeve T-shirts to the first 1,000 people who register for the race.

"The logo on the T-shirts has been designed by the third-year graphics design class at Conestoga College. We have been very happy with the work they have put into help us. The logo will also appear on the front of the plaques that will be given to the winners of the runs."

Schmidt said the races are open to people of all ages. Those who are in wheelchairs can participate

as well. The entry fee for each person is \$20, however, there is a discount rate for families with three or more people.

"Just for entering, many people will get free T-shirts, free food, certificates and badges," said Schmidt. "The pledges for the two races will go to St. Mary's, and the proceeds will go back to the running community through area track clubs."

Schmidt said the race is scheduled to start, regardless of weather conditions, at 9:30 a.m. at Conestoga Mall and will finish at the Waterloo Recreation Complex.

"It only usually takes people about an hour to finish, but there is no time limit," said Schmidt. "We realize there will be a number of walkers and joggers taking part who will need more time. It doesn't matter how long it takes."

The first-place male and female winners of each race will receive \$100 each. Second-place winners will receive \$75 and third-place will receive \$50. Draw prizes are also available to win.

"It's going to be a fun-filled day for everyone," said Schmidt.

WEEK 2
of our
United Way Campaign

THERE'S MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SHARING.....

Plan to attend the "Spaghetti Lunch"
October 21, 12:00 - 1:30

Watch for the "Toonie Toss" team
on October 20 & 22 and win yourself a
Campus Kit.

The Life You are Changing May be Your Own



Conestoga
College



Competitive events



The Caboto Club, from Windsor, Ont., won first prize in the men's catchweight competition at the Oktober tug of war championship at Bingeman Park, Oct. 11.

(Photo by Barbara Ateljevic)

Tug of war championship pulls in a crowd of about 300 spectators

By Barbara Ateljevic

Over 300 spectators showed up to watch the Oktoberfest tug of war championships held at Bingeman Park Oct. 11.

The tournament featured two men's weight classes, a co-ed youth pull and a women's open event. Teams from Ontario, Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota participated.

The men's catchweight is an open-weight class with no upper limit. The Caboto Club, from Windsor, finished first, and Stratford's team, Ellice, came in second. Wisconsin's Mount Vernon came in first in the 720 kilogram weight and Bluewater, from Dashwood near Grand Bend, finished second. In this category, the players combined weight must not exceed 720 kilograms.

In the youth division, Simcoe came in first place with four wins and Ellice in second with three.

Team USA came in first in the women's event, with four wins, and Zorra came in second with three wins.

The ancient Chinese and Egyptians have been thought of as the originators of tug of war, but it is known that neolithic flint miners in Norfolk, England, practised rope pulling. The same style of tug of war that is used in

Oktoberfest was a part of the World Olympic Games from 1900 to 1912.

Teams travel each weekend to fairs and ethnic festivals from June to October. Oktoberfest is just one of their stops.

Teams are made up of eight members, plus substitutes, a manger and a trainer. The end person is called the anchor and is the only one who can rest one hand on the ground for balance. For other

players, feet are the only part of the body that can be used for traction. Any other part of the body that remains on the ground without a visible attempt to get up is not allowed. The distance of the pull is 12 feet on either side of the centre.

The longest pull under the same rules used at Oktoberfest is 55 minutes and 17 seconds at a competition held in the Netherlands in Sept. 1996. Bolet (Ireland) defeated Gaztedi (Spain). The shortest pull is three seconds when Metro Toronto Police defeated Nissouri at the Canadian Open Championships in August 1987.

An appearance from Miss Oktoberfest, Danica Quinn, and the Oktoberfest mascot, Onkel Hans, put some spirit back into the dwindling crowd with their own tug of war and the remainder of the people stayed to cheer the final teams on to victory.

The same style of tug of war that is used in Oktoberfest was a part of the World Olympic Games from 1900 to 1912.



Oktoberfest's official mascot, Onkel Hans, joined the day's festivities with his own tug of war.

(Photo by Barbara Ateljevic)

Competitive events



Onlookers watch Mike Zamuda roll a bocce ball at the annual Sava Club tournament Oct. 12. (Photo by Andrea Bailey)

Rolling out the fun with bocce ball

By Andrea Bailey

Many of the participants in the annual bocce ball tournament, held at Breslau's Slovenian Association Sava Club on Oct. 12, agreed the event provided a fun-filled

day of friendship and Oktoberfest spirit.

"It's good music, good food, good friendship and good company," said Bruno Coslovich, last year's tournament winner. "There is some competition involved, but it's all in good fun. You can get a

little mad when the ball doesn't do what you want, but all in all, it's a good challenge and good exercise."

Bocce ball is an Italian sport, similar to lawn bowling. The goal of the participants is to roll steel balls down a narrow lane filled with sand and aim for a small rubber ball. Whoever is the closest to the rubber ball is credited with points.

At the end of the tournament, whoever has accumulated the most points wins.

"It is a very popular European sport," said Slavko Kirm, a participant from London, Ont. "It is like hock-

ey is here. Too bad the interest is dying in Canada."

Martin Mirt, the founder of the Sava Club in 1962, said the day was a little slower than he expected because

tournament runs for about six to eight hours. It will probably only last about two or three this year."

Mirt said he was happy the weather held up so well, as it

"We celebrate with a dinner of goulash, which is stew, cabbage rolls and strudel."

Martin Mirt, founder of Sava Club



Santarossa Ving concentrates on this shot at the annual bocce ball tournament in Breslau. (Photo by Andrea Bailey)

PEER TUTORING QUIZ

Check boxes that apply

☐ Feeling lost during lectures.

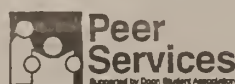
☐ Struggling with homework.

☐ Poor test results.

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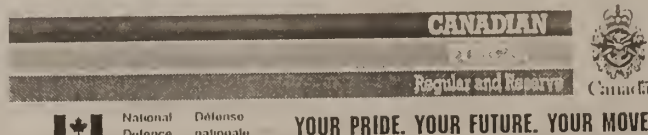
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has in other years.

"It never seems to rain on the Sunday before Thanksgiving. Monday is usually pretty bad with rain and frost, but the Sunday always seem to be really nice for us."

Miss Oktoberfest, Danica Quinn, opened the tournament by rolling the first ball down the sand lane.

Following the tournament, the club hosted a dinner and dance for the participants and other members.

"We celebrate with a dinner of goulash, which is stew, cabbage rolls and strudel," said Mirt. "Then we have dancing groups and live bands play. It's a fun time for everyone who comes."

"The dinner and the drinking are definitely a highlight to the day," said Coslovich. "The drinking might even be the best part."

Competitive events

Second annual open darts tournament

Dart tourney hits Gemutlichkeit bull's-eye

By Victoria Long

Dart players don't restrict gemutlichkeit to Oktoberfest, said Ernie Haycock, organizer of the second annual Oktoberfest open darts tournament held Oct. 11 at the Fred Gies Branch 50 Legion Hall in downtown Kitchener.

Mary Easton, a member of the Cambridge team, said that darts is "the only sport that starts and ends with a handshake."

Only six four-person teams participated this year, down from 10 last year, but the comradeship was undiminished, Haycock said.

He said many of the area's top teams missed the Oktoberfest round robin because it coincided with a \$50,000-prize tournament in Chicago and an over-50s competition in Cambridge.

The Guelph dart team won over the South Brantford Legion Branch 463 team in the round robin team-championship finals.

In the doubles competition, the victors were Andre Carman from Guelph, who made it to the provincial championships last year, and Kevin Zachary.

The event was held upstairs in the Legion Hall at Ontario and Duke streets, festooned with Oktoberfest banners.

Thirteen dart boards were



Mary Easton of the Cambridge team displays her winnings.

(Photo by Victoria Long)

positioned along one wall in the long, narrow hall, with many plywood tables and chairs nearby.

Most tables had beer bottles and well-used ashtrays on top of them as the sociable participants and spectators shared the Oktoberfest spirit throughout the six-hour tournament.

Haycock said darts is the fastest growing sport in Canada. Part of the reason for this, he said, is the only equipment needed is a set of

three darts.

The game of darts started in British pubs, which had leagues of pub teams in all the small towns. As the British Empire expanded, the game went along as part of the cultural package to many countries, Haycock said.

Top players now come from as far away as Singapore, and a man from southern Ontario was ranked second in the world just a few years ago.

Originally, dart bodies were carved from wood, weighted with lead shot and equipped with feather flights, just like arrows.

Modern darts have many different stem types, from plastic bubbles to competition-quality titanium which are so slim that all three darts can hit the bull at the center of the board.

When darters step to the line taped on the floor to throw, they undergo an instantaneous change:

their intense concentration shrinks their world to the size of the dart's point which their wills direct toward a triple twenty, at noon on the circular dartboard, or triple nineteen, at seven o'clock in the narrow inner annulus, Easton said.

Serious competitors will throw about 600 darts every day, Haycock said.

"Darts is the same as golf. Excellence comes from concentration and practice, practice, practice," he said.

The teams wore uniform shirts designed to facilitate free arm movement. Dart shirts are literally darted, in the garment trade's terminology — about five centimetres of fabric is pleated flat at the base of the back yoke and again at waist level so the intumed material allows the shirt back to expand accordion-like as a dart is thrown.

Since this was an open tournament, both sexes participated on an equal footing.

Players' ages ranged from early 20s to late 70s.

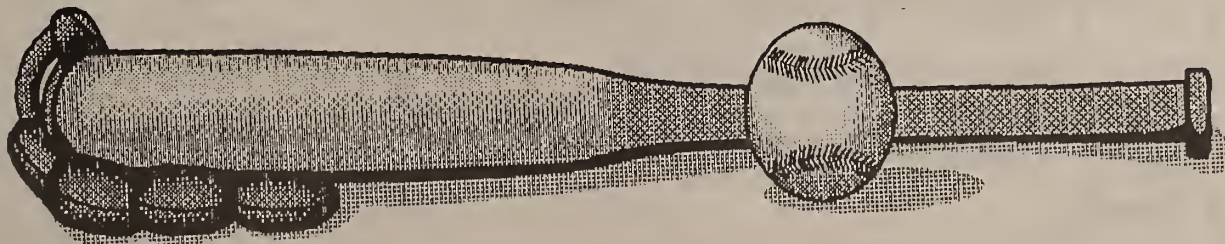
Team colors were bright and schemes ranged from the Brantford team's royal blue with striped epaulettes and a map of Canada with the remembrance "Those who gave", to the red, white and black uniforms of the Intimidators from Guelph.

OCAA WOMEN'S SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

HOSTED BY CONESTOGA COLLEGE OCT. 24 & 25

FRI. OCT. 24 Game #1 12:00pm
Game #2 3:00pm

SAT. OCT. 25 BRONZE MEDAL GAME 11:00am
GOLD MEDAL GAME 2:00pm



COME CHEER ON THE CONDORS AS
THEY TRY TO REPEAT AS THE 1997
PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONS.

Competitive events

Playing bows and arrows

Hubertushaus hosts Bavarian archery competition

By Corina Hill

Driving past Mannheim, one enters a world rich with fall colors and harvested fields. A large sign for the German-Canadian Hunting and Fishing Club, known as Hubertushaus, leads to a winding dirt road where a truly Bavarian sporting event awaits.

The Bogenschuetzenfest is the oldest cultural event of Kitchener-Waterloo's Oktoberfest, having originated in 1969. The contest involves the use of a bow and arrow to knock off several parts of a styrofoam eagle with an approximate wing span of 120 centimetres.

The event was kicked off by Onkel Hans and Miss Oktoberfest Oct. 11.

Danica Quinn, dressed like a queen in her Bavarian dress and tiara, was the first to shoot at a balloon on the eagle, placed 10.5 metres above the ground. Her effort fell short and so Oktoberfest president Peter Eichinger took his chance. Eichinger, who practiced in the woods surrounding Hubertushaus before attempting to shoot, came close to the target and hit the pole behind the bird. Even

Onkel Hans took part, shooting his arrow well below the target to the delight of spectators.

Many athletes dressed in period costumes. Some wore traditional German lederhosen, while others opted for medieval styles from the 12th century that made them look like Robin Hood.

German polka music flowed out of the club, as did the beer, while archers of all ages competed for the different parts of the eagle, especially the heart. Being the last and most difficult of five targets, the heart releases an explosive charge when hit. The first male to hit the heart becomes the konig, or king, and the first female to hit it becomes the konigen, or queen.

Contestants in the Bogenschuetzenfest are to shoot in order, beginning with the crown or kronen. The player who successfully causes the crown to fall off receives a crest with the word Kronenman and thus receives that title. Contestants then shoot for the title of Kopfman by trying to take off the head of the 10-cm thick eagle.

After the head is successfully off, players try to take off the left wing, then the right wing. After removing a wing, or fluegel as the

archers call it, the archer receives a crest and trophy for being a fluegelman.

Bogenschuetzenfest veteran Don Doerner said the wings are the most difficult and unpredictable trophy to win. Doerner won his first trophy in 1982 but has yet to earn the title of fluegelman. "Last year one lady won two of them, left and right," said Doerner. "It's luck of the draw."

Doerner's son Greg took notice of some of the ornately dressed competitors. He said one competitor who dressed in full chain-link armor built his suit link-by-link purely for the event. "They actually fight with swords and clubs," said Greg Doerner.

Arrows in the event must have a rubber tip, which ensures that no one will get hurt. Junior archers have a closer platform to stand on, giving them a chance against veterans like Jim Tomlin.

Tomlin has been shooting for over two decades and has yet to win a title or become a member of the Guild of Archers. Contestants receive a crest and a membership to the Guild of Archers after successfully knocking off one of the five parts of the eagle.



Archers at the 29th annual Bogenschuetzenfest compete for the title of Kronenman. The Kronenman title goes to the archer who causes the eagle's crown to fall off. (Photo by Corina Hill)

Everyone Likes a

Challenge... Here's Yours



The Student Food Share Program needs to restock its shelves. The DSA is challenging each class to make donations of non-perishable food items. The class that donates the most **WINS a class Party.**

Drop off your donations to the DSA Office

Class Challenge Now until October 31

5TH SEMESTER
NURSING STUDENTS



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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22

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IN 1C6

QUESTIONS CAN BE DROPPED OFF
AHEAD OF TIME IN THE DSA OFFICE,
AS WELL, QUESTIONS WILL BE TAKEN
FROM THE FLOOR.

Competitive events



And the band played on . . .

By Jamie Yates

Five of 20 best bands featured in the Oktoberfest parade entertained about 150 people at the third annual International Calvacade of Bands Oct. 12 at University Stadium in Waterloo.

The non-alcoholic family event was created for the musical aspect of the festival, said Bridget Lambert of the parade committee, who organized the occasion.

"It's a preview of the bands that will be featured in the parade," said Lambert. "It is to support the musical aspect of Oktoberfest."

The event was put on by the parade committee and the band committee, which organized the bands for the parade. It was sponsored by four local businesses,

including Manulife Financial, Union Gas, Home Hardware and Jack Astor's bar and grill. About 12 committee members volunteered to work at the calvacade.

Door prizes, donated by the sponsors, were given to audience members whose ticket numbers were called. Prizes included gift certificates and novelty items.

The bands featured at the occasion were the Royal Military College Band of Canada, Kingston, Ont.; Mighty Marchin' Trojans of Saginaw High School, Saginaw, Mich.; Marching Blue Devils of Cambridge Springs, Cambridge Springs, Pa.; Albion Purple Eagles Marching Band, Albion, N.Y.; and the Greater Kensington String Band, Philadelphia, Pa.

Lambert said the event gives the public a chance to hear the bands longer than they would in the parade.

The bands were adjudicated by six judges at the calvacade on the basis of their musical proficiency and ability to entertain while creating a variety of musical and visual textures.

"The bands will be judged on musicality and presentation," she said, "and also will be given points on how to improve."

Admission to the event cost \$2 per person or \$5 for four people. Ticket sales went to support the bands.

Bands performed their musical numbers on the stadium football field dressed in a rainbow of colors. The audience cheered for all the bands, but the favorite appeared to be the last band, the Kensington String Band, who demonstrated a Bavarian theme echoing Oktoberfest.

Emma Coffta of Akron, NY, who

attended the calvacade said she has attended Oktoberfest for 15 years, but this was the first time she came to the calvacade.

"I thought (the bands) were all great," she said, "especially the last band." She added, "I think the event is really good and I'll be back for sure."



The Cavalcade of Bands

Above — A member of the Kensington String Band displays his elaborate costume at the International Cavalcade of Bands in Waterloo Oct. 12.

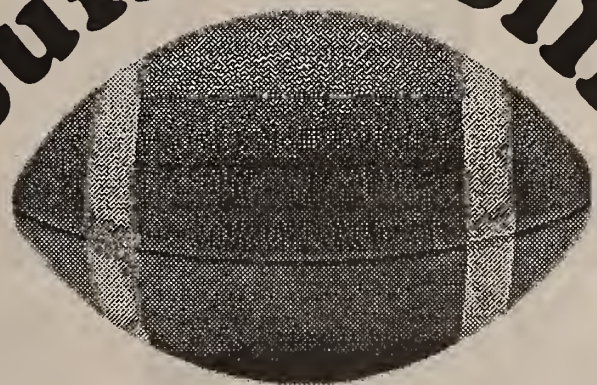
Top left — The Marching Blue Devils of Cambridge Springs, Pa., march across the field at Waterloo Stadium for an audience of about 150.

(Photos by Jamie Yates)



(Photo by Rachel Pearce)

Buffalo Bills



Miami Dolphins Sunday, November 2

\$50

Tickets on Sale at
the DSA Office



Conestoga connection

Another Oktoberfest bash for Conestoga students

Conestoga College rolls out the barrel for Walter Ostanek

By Erica Ayliffe

In the words of the Doon Student Association (Oktoberfest) Queensmount organizer, "It has become an annual must-go event."

Becky Boertien has been the DSA's director of student life for six years, and each year an

Oktoberfest bash for Conestoga students has been held on a Thursday night at the Queensmount arena on Queens Boulevard in Kitchener.

"A lot of alumni come back every year," said Boertien.

She said the event is a great place for students to meet and mingle with students from other programs at the college.

"With an event like this, people just come up to you. You meet people in technology, business, alumni," said Boertien. "Everybody loves everyone."

The Kitchener Lions Club organizes the evening and pays for the rental of the arena, alcohol and entertain-

ment, which is Walter Ostanek.

All the DSA does to run the event is print and sell the tickets.

The cost to print the tickets is \$250, but the DSA is given a \$150 subsidiary from the Lions Club, said Boertien.

The proceeds from the \$8

tickets go back into the DSA's budget.

"It's already budgeted for," said Boertien. "It goes back into the basic operating cost."

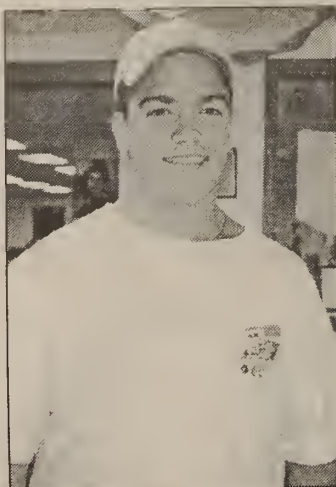
The DSA has 1,900 tickets, which is the maximum capacity of the arena.

If every ticket is sold, they will make around \$15,000.

"We make money from it and all we do is sell tickets," said Boertien. "It's a good fundraiser."

Boertien said the DSA usually sells between 1,100 and 1,300 tickets. Four years ago they sold around 1,600 and made around \$10,000, she said.

"Every year we lose about



Tim Freer, third-year civil engineering student, sports a Queensmount t-shirt that he bought last year when he bought tickets for the same event happening this year.

(Photo by Erica Ayliffe)



Becky Boertien, the DSA's director of student life, holds a Queensmount T-shirt available with a ticket for \$15.

(Photo by Erica Ayliffe)

\$1,000. It hasn't been as big a seller."

She said the Lions Club offered to sell the tickets through the DSA because the DSA has access to a market interested in going to an Oktoberfest event on a Thursday night.

"We have the market to get the people there," she said. "During the week you don't get as many people at the festhalls as you do on the weekends, so they use our market to get people there during the week."

The Lions Club profits from the event through the sale of alcohol, food, souvenirs and gambling games, Boertien said.

She said a number of stu-

dents who buy tickets for Queensmount have never heard of Oktoberfest and don't know that it is a German festival.

Boertien said she doesn't know whether Queensmount is a good introduction for students, but said it may prompt them to get involved in other

Oktoberfest activities.

"Oktoberfest always has drinking attached to it," she said. "But there is a lot more to it than just the festhalls. Hopefully students will go to these other events and see there is more to do."

Queensmount took place on Oct. 16 this year.

SPOKE

SPOKE is mainly funded from September to May by the Doon Student Association (DSA). The views and opinions expressed in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the views of Conestoga College or the DSA. Advertisers in SPOKE are not endorsed by the DSA unless their advertisements contain the DSA logo. SPOKE shall not be liable for any damages arising out of errors in advertising beyond the amount paid for the space. Unsolicited submissions must be sent to the editor by 9:30 a.m. Monday. Submissions are subject to acceptance or rejection and should be clearly written or typed; a WordPerfect or MS Word file would be helpful. Submissions must not contain any libellous statements and may be accompanied by an illustration (such as a photograph).

WHY, I OUGHTA...



Heritage Minister Sheila Copps jokes around with Oktoberfest president Peter Chichinjer at the opening ceremonies Oct. 16.

(Photo by Corey Jubenville)

Is Your Class Represented? Make sure your class has a.....

DSA Class Rep.

Next Meeting

Tues. Oct. 21, 4:30 pm

or

Thurs. Oct. 23, 3:30 pm

The Sanctuary

More Information at the **DSA Office.**



Conestoga connection



Grade 5 students from Crestview elementary school visiting Ecco '97 look at model floats, designed by Conestoga's graphic arts students, for the Oktoberfest parade. From left — Eric Herzberg, Mladen Rakanoic and Allen Dodd.

(Photo by Hunter Malcolm)

Ecological fair run by high school

By Natalie Schneider

Oktoberfest is a time to celebrate German culture. Whether or not you're German doesn't matter; it is a time to let loose. Oktoberfest conjures up memories of nights filled with schnitzel, sausages, beer and polka music. However, it doesn't always apply to beer and weiners.

Part of the Oktoberfest celebrations is ECCO '97, which has taken place over the years as one of the many organized events.

It involves interactive displays for adults and children.

"It's a hands on experience," said Amanda Drumond, 18, one of the students volunteering at the event. "The displays mostly deal with environmental issues, focusing mostly on water, water pollution, water resources and water conservation."

The two-week event, which started on Oct. 6th and runs to Oct. 18th, was organized this year by approximately 30 St. Mary's Catholic secondary school students. The students were required to organize the event as an independent-study project for their OAC science and society class.

"The idea to focus on water issues came from the Children's Ground Water Festival, which took place last year and after that we decided to organize a similar event for ECCO '97," said Drumond.

"Last year some students from St. Mary's volunteered at the Children's Ground Water Festival

to help at the stations and displays. So this year we decided to put it together ourselves," said Drumond.

To organize the event on time, the students started preparing in September when school started.

"It took a lot of preparation, about a month. We had to call everyone and get them to bring in their displays. Then we had to set them all up and get everyone trained by researching and learning about the different displays," said Drumond.

There is a wide variety of things to see, such as the Grand River Conservation Area display and Great Art for Great Lakes by Environment Canada, which displayed art work done by students across Ontario, focusing on environmental issues.

"This year a lot of different corporations got involved. Before it was just the University of Waterloo and the Children's Ground Water Festival that took part," said Drumond.

For Drumond the best part of ECCO '97 is interacting with the kids, while Alex Boterman, 17, another volunteer, likes the hands on experience.

"I like being here. It's better than school. It's more fun than sitting behind a desk. Here you learn by doing more hands on stuff," said Boterman.

This year ECCO '97 is located on the main floor of Market Square. The area allows more space for the displays and for a heavier flow of people coming through. The old location was

across the street in the Royal Bank building, which was small in comparison. Daily hours for the exhibit are from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and admission is free.

Oktoberfesters enjoy ECCO '97

By Hunter Malcolm

Just beyond the barriers of the Oktoberfest fanfare, on the ground level of Market Square, clear-minded fest enthusiasts had an opportunity to go in and brush up on their water conservation knowledge at ECCO '97.

One of the first displays that stood out when entering ECCO '97 were the models of a few floats from this year's Oktoberfest parade.

These were constructed by students from Conestoga's graphic arts program and the display was one of about 20 learning stations set up as part of Oktoberfest Schools Program.

Lois Peterson, second vice-president of Oktoberfest, chairperson for its schools program and chair of this particular event, said the focus for ECCO this year was ground water education.

"We wanted to promote an awareness for this resource we all take for granted, from rain to rivers to the great lakes," she said.

Peterson said she was pleased with the turnout for ECCO, which stands for Environment Community Corporation Oktoberfest.

"We registered about 4,000 students to visit this year," she said of the program which scheduled tours for students.

Although many of the booths have been brought in by the environmentally-friendly corpora-

tions that sponsored ECCO '97, it was senior students from St. Mary's Catholic secondary school who conducted the demonstrations at each of the stations.

Lisa Dougall, vice-chair for ECCO '97, said the students who visited the venue have enjoyed it because it was so interactive.

"Each of the booths offered people not only something to learn but something to do as well," she said.

From push-button electronic displays to a small race with water balloons, there was plenty to hold the attention of younger visitors.

Besides the table displaying the work of Conestoga students, other stations included the University of Waterloo with a filtration cycle demonstration, the Grand River Conservation Authority with live turtles and bearded dragon lizards, the Conestoga Rovers Association had a ground flow model and winners of the Great Art for Great Lakes contest with their entries displayed throughout.

Following the completion of the tour, students could make a "blue thumb pledge." With blue or green paint they could leave a print on a board to proclaim their stewardship and commitment to water conservation.

"It actually looks like a piece of art now," said Peterson. "We've had kids from as far away as Scotland and Belgium stick their thumbs on it," she said.

Conestoga Hallowe'en Bash

DOON STUDENT ASSOCIATION

LOOSE CHANGE LOUIE'S
COSTUME PARTY AND PRIZES
TRIP TO FLORIDA UP FOR GRABS
WED., OCT. 29, 1997

ALL AGES
Door open @ 8:30

Must be a Conestoga Student to win prizes

Conestoga Connection

Flipping out

Conestoga students make good pancakes



Students from Conestoga College's hospitality program flip pancakes at the Oktoberfest Family Breakfast, Oct. 11 at Waterloo Town Square. (Photo by L.A. Livingston)



Pat Murphy, producer of CHYM Radio's George and Val Show, pour syrup at the family breakfast. (Photo by L.A. Livingston)

Thousands fed at family breakfast

By L.A. Livingston

The 18th annual CHYM Radio and CKGL Oktoberfest Family Breakfast fed several thousand people Oct. 11 at Waterloo Town Square, with a little help from Conestoga College students.

"We can't do without the Conestoga College hospitality students," said Michael Collins, promotions manager for CHYM Radio. "We serve between eight to 10,000 people every year."

The students are in food and beverage management (also known as the hospitality program), a two-year program offered at the Waterloo campus. They make pancakes by the thousands on long, hot skillets set up under a tent. On Saturday, about 25 were flipping pancakes.

Gary Williams, a faculty member in the program, said between 20 and 30 students help out every year. Most are first-year students in the hospitality program, he said, because the second-year students are on their co-op terms.

"Some students come back to help out after they graduate," he said.

Williams said the college has been involved since the Oktoberfest event began in 1979.

"The first year, there were 700 people who came," he said. "The best was when Lennox Lewis was here. Ten thousand people came that year."

The hospitality program's involvement began when the college was approached by the sales manager at CHYM Radio to form a partnership with the station, including its sister station CKGL, and Waterloo Town Square, which hosts the event, he said.

Williams said he is taking it easy at the breakfast this year because he is recovering from a heart attack he had five weeks ago that forced him to take a break from teaching this term. As a result, his duties at the event were taken on by Tyrone Miller, a technician in the cooking section of the program.

The Waterloo Region Food Bank became involved four years ago, Collins said. Donations of food and money are welcomed at the breakfast, which is offered to the public free of charge on the first Saturday after Oktoberfest officially opens.

Spring Break '98

Panama City Beach, Florida

Acapulco, Mexico

Trip Information Day

Tues. Oct. 28

9:30 am - 2:30 pm

The Sanctuary

Trip Details and
Pricing is available at
the DSA Office

Conestoga connection



Jeremy Gull and Julie Girardi, third-year broadcasting students, provide commentary for the Thanksgiving Day parade Oct. 13.

(Photo by Ross Bragg)

Broadcasting students talk turkey at parade

By Ross Bragg

Lori Illingworth moved to the back of the mobile studio for the third time in five minutes to scream out to the two audio directors seated before television monitors. "More ambient sound. We need more ambient sound!"

Illingworth, together with 21 other third-year broadcasting students, was producing a "live to tape" show of the Kitchener-Waterloo Thanksgiving Day Parade Monday, Oct. 13.

Live to tape means the students were switching cameras and sound as in a live show, but unlike a live show, the parade was recorded on a video recorder for later broadcast. It also meant there were no second takes and no major re-editing.

Ambient sound is broadcasting jargon for background sound. For Illingworth and others in the control room, there was not enough sounds of marching bands, clown whistles and parade goers.

After orders, Paul Vanbeek, audio assistant, raised the levels for the two microphones suspended from lamp-posts above the parade.

Understandably, the anxiety level was high. The broadcasting students had been setting up at the corner of William and King streets in Waterloo since 5:30 a.m. By 9:30 a.m. midway throughout the parade, it had been a long day.

For about four weeks, the students had practised their roles as camera operators and stage-hands, said Illingworth. "It is hard to simulate a

parade in the college parking lot, though. Here at the real thing, when you miss something, you miss something."

Setting up to videotape the parade involved raising scaffolding for cameras, decorating a booth for commentators and preparing equipment and people for an on-the-street reporter.

All of these elements were connected with an intricate web of wires, which converged in a control room, parked behind the crowds.

The crew also consisted of four Conestoga law and security students, who were there to keep the crowds off and away from the equipment.

"It was kind of crazy. We lost the audio for a while and the cables were a bit too short," said Crystal Brindley, the on-the-street announcer who interviewed people watching the parade. "Remember, though, it is pretty difficult having four cameras on the go."

When the parade had passed, everyone from floor managers to stage hands pitched in to roll up cable and pack the trailer. Most of the crew enjoyed leftover lollipops, which Brindley had been giving to the young children she interviewed.

"We were all yelling back and forth," said Amy Tomkins, the show's director, "but really we are all in pretty good spirits now. We all had fun."

After the Thanksgiving Day parade, the third-year students will change positions and prepare to do a similar taping of the Santa Claus parade in Toronto in November.



Ren Wortelboer (forward) and Sean McDonald, third-year broadcasting students work the on-the-street interviews at the Thanksgiving Day parade Oct. 13.

(Photo by Ross Bragg)



Struttin'



By
Andrea
Bailey

The crowd at the 1997 Oktoberfest parade was the largest it has been in the event's 29-year history, said the parade chairperson Grace Macdonald.

"Everyone seemed to be very impressed this year," she said. "So far, I have had no negative feedback. With the new bands I brought in, the new floats designed by Conestoga College students and the good weather, we could not have asked for a better day."

Macdonald said there were over 10 new floats in the parade this year. Each was designed by many graphic arts and design students at Conestoga, she said.

Macdonald, who has been involved in the parade preparations for the last 18

years, said there was a competition in the college program earlier this year. All of the floats that were judged as the best were used in the parade.

"We had a new queen's float, a honey bee, one from Kaufman Footwear, a Food Basics float and a big La-Z-boy chair float," she said. "The children really seemed to enjoy everything, as did the adults."

Macdonald said the only negative part to the event was the people who broke the "no handouts" rule.

"We are very serious about not allowing any handouts during the parade," she said. "Children who go to grab the things, such as candies or brochures, could get their feet caught underneath the floats and possibly get hurt."

Many members of the crowd echoed Macdonald's opinion of event.

"It was really nice to be able to bring the kids out in good weather," said Bill Spitzig of Waterloo. "In other years, it has been either raining or extremely cold. It was nice to be able to wear just a spring-type jacket for a change."

"It was really fun," said 11-year-old Nathan Jeffries of Kitchener. "Except, I liked it better a couple years ago when Doug Gilmour was here. Why couldn't they have another Maple Leaf?"

A couple of years ago, Gilmour was named the grand marshal of the parade. He rode on a float up the King Street route, much to the delight of many young hockey fans.

The grand marshal this year was Olympic swimmer Marnie McBean.

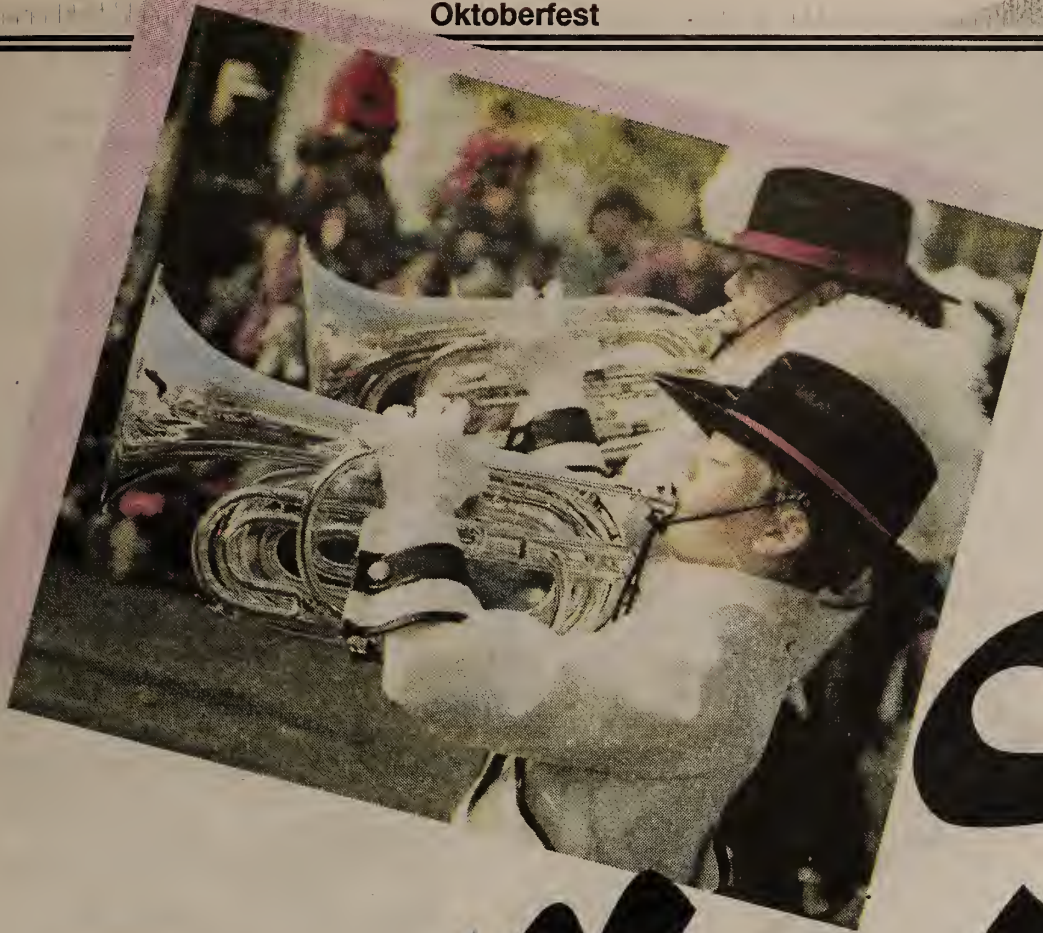
"It might have been better to get someone who is a little more well-known to the kids," said Brenda Pellow of Waterloo.

"Most of the adults know the name, but many kids don't follow swimming to know who she is. It would have been nice to get another celebrity like Doug Gilmour so kids could say, 'Wow, I saw so and so.'"

But few complaints were heard from many children.

"I love this parade," said 13-year-old Samantha Miller. "It makes kids feel part of Oktoberfest since we can't really go out anywhere to celebrate."

Our Stuff



Photos by Ross Bragg and
Rachel Pearce

Fest questions

It's not just about the beer



Rebecca Eby

The word Oktoberfest conjures up as many different images as there are visitors to the autumn festival.

Yet a predominant image probably transfigures in the minds of most: crowded beer tents infested with revellers, in felt hats with feathers long enough to hold a small plane airborne, inhaling carcinogens and uttering slurred German phrases.

It's a disgusting picture to some, a pleasant memory to others and an experience blacked out to more than a few.

Consider, though, the roots of the event.

Oktoberfest was originally a beer festival in its homeland of Germany, but has since taken on elements of a harvest celebration.

In Kitchener-Waterloo, the Canadian version of Oktoberfest runs just as the fall harvest gets underway.

Far from the festhalls and close to nature, the corn, pumpkin, potato and apple crops are brought into the barns.

Humming tractors, grinding harvesters and other farming paraphernalia dot the autumn-tinted landscape in preparation for the quickly approaching winter.

In the country, true rest and celebration don't occur until all of the work is completed.

Coincidentally, or perhaps not, Oktoberfest is kicked off on the same weekend Canada remembers Thanksgiving.

To many people, this coordination is perfect timing; the Canadian and German celebrations of the harvest commemorated in tandem.

But the original

Thanksgiving was more than a country notion of a produce party.

In 1620, Puritans fleeing religious persecution in England landed in North America. Because of a delay in leaving port, they didn't arrive in the new land until Nov. 10, too late to sow crops. Relying on food remaining from the journey and offered by the local natives, only about half of the 100 settlers survived the winter.

The next year's crops were successful and a three-day thanksgiving festival was declared. One of the days, Thanksgiving Day, was also a day of prayer.

"On Thanksgiving Day, they (the pilgrims and natives) sat out of doors at big tables and ate their feast and thanked God for the harvest," said Ralph Whitlock in his book *Harvest and Thanksgiving*.

Thanksgiving, while a celebration of the harvest in part, had a deeper significance.

North America's immigrants were showing their gratefulness to the one they believed gave them their plenty.

Today, some of the meaning for the celebration has been lost, as so many have left the proximity to nature in the countryside for the party in the beer tents.

Few people see their food grow before their eyes while relying on circumstances they can never control, so they don't always see the true relevance of Thanksgiving.

Perhaps we need to be more sober in our festivities. Not that we can't have fun, but we should at least know and remember what we are truly celebrating on Thanksgiving weekend.

That's the one



Richard Marion, 10, inspects a pumpkin north of Waterloo on Thanksgiving Day.

(Photo by Rebecca Eby)

Family Day does not live up to its name

By Casey Johnson

Altes Munchen Haus, the Queensmount arena, hosted a family day Oct. 12 and 13 which Conestoga College parents were invited to attend. Yet there were not very many activities that were family oriented — not unless you include the intoxicated parents, at 3 p.m., doing the polka with their kids on the dance floor.

Starting at the entrance and moving right, there was a photo button booth followed by a Schnapp's bar.

On the next wall was a Brick beer and liquor-ticket booth, the band stand, which featured Walter Ostanek and his band, then another Brick beer and liquor-ticket booth.

The following wall featured a hard-liquor stand, a beer booth and then a food booth. The last wall featured a souvenir stand and the washrooms.

There was face painting, free balloons, free pop and a huge helium lion there for the kids, but, altogether the whole family day event featured a surprisingly large amount of alcohol. There were plenty of kids, but some of them were running

around the bandstand while their parents were doing the polka.

It seemed to be a giant playground for unruly kids. Doesn't a family day consist of families spending quality time together?

The Lions Club, in association with the Doon Student Association, provided students who are parents with free admission.

Dr. Jack Bishop, of the Lions Club, said he and Becky Boertien, of the DSA, tried to give the parents at the college a break by providing them with the free admission.

There are several other groups that help sponsor Oktoberfest and also receive free admission, he said.

The Lions Club was expected to spend between \$6,000 and \$7,000 on give-away stuff alone, said Bishop.

The only free activities were the face painting, the pop and the balloons.

Also, the admission for people who were not given free tickets was \$5.

A small Oktoberfest hat cost \$8 and the matching feather was an additional \$3, or \$5, depending on its size. The cost

of beer was \$3.50 and the liquor was slightly higher than that. The food was not free, nor were the button photos.

Between \$6,000 and \$7,000 was spent on what then?

There was supposed to be a fishing pond for the kids, special entertainment and dancing for kids, said Bishop. All of which were non-existent, at least on Monday they were.

Between 1978 and 1979, Oktoberfest president Charles Greb intended to change the face of Oktoberfest to include a more family — and community — oriented atmosphere. With great intentions, Greb put his plan into action, and it was well received among the community.

However, some halls are not following in Greb's footsteps.

If an event is advertised as a family day, indeed it should live up to its name.

Alcohol does not need to be excluded from these events, but should definitely be more controlled.

The event was supposed to be directed towards the kids. Since when does alcohol become the main attraction of a children's event?

Fest questions



The Re/Max and CHYM FM hot air balloons lift off from Victoria Park early on the morning of Oct. 12.

(Photo by L. Scott Nicholson)

To fest or not to fest

How residents observe the famous festival

Story and photos by
Rebecca Eby

Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest is North America's largest Bavarian festival, with over 700,000 visitors last year.

From the parade to the beer halls, visitors come to the region with the spirit of *gemutlichkeit*.

But a sidewalk survey outside the St. Jacobs Factory Outlet Mall Oct. 4 found that not all of the people who live in the area appreciate hosting the world-renowned festival in their backyard.

"We're from Kitchener, and I hate it," said Delia Berry, when asked about her plans for Oktoberfest. The systems manager at a local bank said she doesn't have much use for the event because she doesn't like the crowds and she doesn't drink.

"I like the German food," she said, "but I can have that any time."

Al Wilkins, a property manager in K-W, said he would be getting out of town as soon as possible.

"We're leaving as soon as Oktoberfest starts," he said.

He said his family might hold a private celebration, but it would be nowhere near the local festivities.

Others stick around for a calm celebration.

Trish Hooton, a teacher, and Cam Urquhart, a sign maker, said they were hoping to go to a party at a friend's place, but they had no further plans.

"We're not crazy about the whole beerfest thing," said Hooton.

Shari White and Ken Roche, both massage therapists in Kitchener, said they're tired of the

traditional beer halls and are skipping a lot of the festivities this year.

"We're doing family things mostly," Roche said.

They said they would maybe go out with the younger adults after one of the family gatherings.

Yet some still make the stereotypical Oktoberfest rounds to the bars.

An unidentified 16-year-old from Kitchener said he was intending to drink and party with friends, and another unidentified under-19-year-old also said she was hoping to go out drinking at a public Oktoberfest party.

Dana Drouin, a student at

Wilfrid Laurier University, said she was intending to go with friends to a party at the Kitchener Memorial Auditorium Complex.

"We're going out one night," she said.

She said she didn't have any other definite plans.

Other people, like taxi driver Mike Alangbein, decided to make money rather than spend it.

"I'm going to drive cab and make lots of money," he said.



Delia Berry
systems manager



Al Wilkins
property manager



Trish Hooton, teacher
Cam Urquhart, sign maker



Ken Roche and Shari White
massage therapists



Dana Drouin
student at WLU



Mike Alangbein
taxi driver

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ESP Spirit Seance

Friday, October 31
11:30 am, The Sanctuary

Psychometry Levitation

Fest questions

Crown and controversy

Cheers and jeers greet '97 pageant

By Sarah Smith

The contrast was telling. Protesters dressed in faded jeans and jackets stood outside, dripping wet in the pouring rain, holding placards and handing out literature. Inside, women dressed in tight, colorful gowns walked stiffly across the floodlit stage, their smiles firmly planted in their makeup.

The 1997 Miss Oktoberfest Pageant had begun. Women packaged in shiny wrapping vying to be the shiniest. And while supporters of such beauty pageants claim physical attributes do not decide the winner, the fact that the swimsuit and evening gown competitions were televised, while the intellect, fitness and talent competitions were not, reveals the evening's priorities.

About 20 University of Waterloo students and supporters staged a protest at this year's pageant, held Oct. 9, carrying banners and distributing an outline explaining their opposition.

"We disagree with the pageant because it's sexist and demeaning," said Suzanne Thibodeau, a co-ordinator of the protest from the University of Waterloo. "We think it's a tradition of the past and society needs to realize how damaging it can be."

The pageant, which has been held since 1969, is held at the beginning of Oktoberfest to

select an ambassador for the festival. Danica Quinn of Kitchener-Waterloo was chosen from 16 contestants to be this year's Miss Oktoberfest.

In defence of the beauty contest, Jack Peterson, chairman of the pageant committee, said in a faxed statement that K-W Oktoberfest has their positive position on the event.

"We do not feel that participating in any further debate would benefit the parties involved," he said in the statement.

Greg Hasiek, a University of Waterloo student protesting at the event, said he did not agree with the pageant.

"I'm all for the beauty of women, but not handing out awards to the most aesthetically pleasing," he said. "I don't think you can decide what's beautiful externally. Most of us are born into this body."

Literature handed out by the protesters said requirements of the women entering the pageant — they must be between 19 and 25, have never married and have never had a child — represent unrealistic standards of beauty. "Young, beautiful, virginal women are presented as the ideal women."

While some people attending the event took the literature offered, others ignored or yelled at the protestors. Susan Wiggins, mother of Brianna Wiggins (cutout photo), the pageant's runner-up, said she



Melissa Burton, a University of Waterloo student, hands out literature protesting the Miss Oktoberfest Pageant to people attending the event Oct. 9.
(Photo by Sarah Smith)

found the protesters comical.

"But I understand their intentions for people who go to extremes," she said. "I'm a counsellor and I've advised girls with anorexia and I've always told my daughter to eat healthily. The swimsuit competition is a very small part of the event."

She said her daughter's entry into beauty pageants has

helped her gain self-esteem, poise and focus for the future. "Friendships are also a big part. It's a wonderful experience," she said.

Thibodeau, and others opposed to beauty pageants,

disagree.

"Pageants want women of a model type," she said. "They're not recognizing women of different body shapes and sizes. We believe that contributes to women and men obsessing with dieting and

According to the protest literature, female models a generation ago weighed 8 per cent less than the average woman; today, models weigh 23 per cent less.



Danica Quinn of Kitchener-Waterloo is crowned Miss Oktoberfest 1997 on Oct. 9 at the Centre in the Square, Kitchener.
Photo by Sarah Smith

DSA HOLLOWE'EN WEEK

OCTOBER 28-31

Movies, Nooners, Hollwe'en Bash At

Loose Change Louis

Fest questions

Police services hold RIDE spot checks

By Rachel Pearce

She said she'd only had two drinks at a birthday party earlier that night, but the 60-year-old Kitchener woman was asked by Const. John Van Breda of the Waterloo regional police to pull off the road for a quick breathalyser test just in case. "She blew a 12-hour licence suspension," he said. "I could smell alcohol on her breath as soon as I leaned into the car, and even though she probably did only have a couple, she's a very small lady."

The legal limit for blood alcohol levels is 80 mg of alcohol per 100 ml of blood. Anything over that is impairment, however, Sgt. Fred Gregory of the Waterloo Regional Police Services, said motorists who have alcohol levels of between 80 and 100 mg are only given a warning and a 12-hour licence suspension. He said it takes a reading of over 100 mg before a person has 'failed' the test and is charged with impaired driving.

Van Breda was part of a six-man team that held a RIDE (Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere) program spot check at Weber and Montgomery Road on Saturday, Oct. 11.

The former Conestoga College student and seven-year member of the police force said the RIDE program will be active every night of the Oktoberfest celebrations. In the first weekend, which includes Thanksgiving Monday, the

police checked a total of 4,372 motorists, and handed out 11 12-hour licence suspensions and one 90-day suspension to an impaired driver.

Gregory, the team leader, said the RIDE spot checks are an important public relations vehicle for the police. The spot checks provide a chance for people, who would not otherwise have any interaction with them, to meet the officers face-to-face and to get to know them as human beings.

"Sure, it makes people realize you're doing your job, but it's more than that," he said. "It gives people faith in you."

The officers often appeared to be having a good time. They smiled politely, joked with motorists and handed out coupons. One officer, Const. Kevin Thaler, even gave a carload of Oktoberfest revellers hang-over advice as they drove away from the inspection.

"Hey guys," he said as he waved to them, "make sure you drink three glasses of water before hitting the hay tonight."

"Most people are pretty receptive to the guys' attitudes," said Gregory. "I like this job as much as I did 20 years ago."

But all was not fun and games that night.

Gregory said his team of officers are all very experienced. "They know what they're doing and need very little supervision," he said.

One man was arrested for possession of narcotics for the purpose of trafficking.



Const. Jon Van Breda salutes a driver who has passed primary inspection.

(Photo by Rachel Pearce)

Van Breda said the man, who was pulled off the road for a breathalyser test, gave false information to the police. The arresting officer, Const. Nandor Kosza, then searched the man's vehicle and found an ounce and a half of marijuana and some pills.

A few times during the night, the whole RIDE program was shut down as all six officers gave motorists road-side breathalyser tests.

Const. Jim Strand, who specializes in the operation of the intoxilizer (a generator-powered machine which is the last word in blood

alcohol testing) warned that there is no way to fool his machine, which is carefully calibrated and contains a pressure gauge which will not give a reading without an adequate breath sample.

"People think they can fool the machine, but it hasn't worked yet," he said.

A night in the life of a taxi driver during Oktoberfest

By Becky Little

Some people don't associate cab drivers with leather shorts and felt hats, but they are a big part of every Oktoberfest in Kitchener-Waterloo.

Wayne Grubbe has been driving a taxi at Oktoberfest for the past eight years but this is the first year he will be working full time. He said cab drivers don't really get assigned to a certain hall for the night; they just pick different places within their specific zone.

Grubbe said his worst experience at Oktoberfest was when he picked up a couple from a festhall and had to help them get into the back seat. He said the woman started screaming that the

man was going to be sick so Grubbe stopped in the middle of the road and opened the door. He then helped the man back into the car. When they arrived at the address he just laid them on the front lawn. At least he got paid.

Grubbe said he gets a lot of laughs out of drunk people, usually those who don't drink very often and end up drinking too much. He said he also likes Oktoberfest because so many people from out of town always comment on what a beautiful city Kitchener-Waterloo is.

Bob Melanson, from City Cabs, said this was his 23rd Oktoberfest. "Cab driving is not like a job; it's like an adventure. You never know what you will get into," he said.

Melanson said the thing he disliked about Oktoberfest was not only the impaired drivers but the impaired pedestrians. "They jump

right out in front of you," he said.

He was pleased with the Molson bus service because without it, the taxi drivers

couldn't handle the business, Melanson said.

When asked what time he would stop, he said business overrides schedules.

Grad Photos

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Fest questions

Spielcasino has little to offer gamblers

By Matt Harris

Frank Braby sat at a blackjack table, idly watching the polka band play over in the corner. The cards in front of him were the last thing on his mind.

Braby, who is from Detroit, Mich., is attending Oktoberfest for the first time.

"When I heard about a casino being at Oktoberfest, it seemed like it could be interesting," Braby said. "Considering the size constraints the organizers are dealing with, this is not really so bad. I was just expecting something else."

Playing blackjack is one of only three things to do at the Four Points Hotel charity speilcasino, with a poker room and a money wheel also available. Betting limits were anywhere from one dollar to five dollars.

Paul Mitchell, the Four Points' senior pit boss, said that the casino would run all week. Estimating from past numbers, he said they expected to draw about 1,000 people during that time.

Mitchell further explained that the casino was following rules that have been set down by the Ontario government's gaming commission.

"We've got a volunteer staff running things here," he said. "The profits go to the Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest committee, so they distribute them at another time."

The casinos are not confined to the Four Points. Others can be found at various festhalls like Bingemans, Twist'N'Hausen and Queensmount.

Mitchell said play at each casino can go on until about 4 a.m., depending on how good the crowds are.

However, Braby didn't think that many people would stay long, mostly due to the lack of variety in games.

"I've been to the casino in Windsor a couple of times," he said. "I know that this is just temporary, but they could have offered a little variety in the games. Blackjack and poker can get old kinda fast."

New currency for Oktoberfest

By Amy Sonnenberg

Forget the toonie — Oktoberfest has its own \$2 coin.

The Hansie is legal tender and can be used anywhere in Kitchener-Waterloo until Oct. 31.

But has a toonie ever won you any prizes?

Look for the Hansie Spotters' Van around K-W. If you have a Hansie with you, you can win coupons, T-shirts and other prizes.

Delores Trask, the Oktoberfest office manager, said the van isn't difficult to spot. "You'll know it when you see it. It's covered in signs and flashing lights." T-shirts, hats, mugs and other prizes are also available to those with one of the 200 special Hansies bearing the secret mint mark. The mark will be revealed in the Nov. 13 edition of the Record, and those with the special Hansies become eligible to win one of three \$500

mutual funds.

The coin has been a part of Oktoberfest since 1973, yet it went through several names before becoming the Hansie two years ago. In those 24 years, the coin has had pictures of the farmer's market, City Hall and the Victoria Park clock tower, to name a few. This year the Hansie has a picture of John Metz Schneider.

The main reason for the coin is simply to promote Oktoberfest, said Trask. "It creates more awareness of the festival throughout the community. But it also makes a great souvenir." Some K-W area companies are offering specials to Hansie owners. The Sears outlet store at the King Centre, for example, offered 10 per cent off a purchase if someone came in with a Hansie. The Keg steakhouse and bar will give a free Billy Miner pie to anyone using a Hansie toward his or her bill.

Just a couple of inches to go



Two women's team members shoot for the Great Barrel Race finish line on Oct. 11. The event took place on King Street in front of Waterloo Town Square between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

(Photo by Craig Vallbacka)

Banquet celebrates woman of the year

By Amy Sonnenberg

Kitchener-Waterloo area women were to celebrate their accomplishments at the 23rd annual Women of the Year awards banquet on Oct. 16.

Ten women were to be chosen from approximately 60 nominees, all chosen by people in the community, to be woman of the year in the following categories: art/history/literature; business/entrepreneur; community volunteer; employee; homemaker; humanitarian; professional; senior; sport; and young adult.

The winners were determined by a six-member Women of the Year committee.

Linda Sauder, chair of the committee, said these awards are for all women. "We celebrate all facets of a woman."

The event was planned for 7:30 p.m. at the Waterloo Inn. A pianist and violinist from the Beckett School of Music were scheduled to precede the awards presentations and guest speakers, including Diane Matayas, author of Performance: Your Guide to Personal and Professional Excellence; Peter Eichinger, Oktoberfest president; and Waterloo Region mayors, MPs and MPPs.

The Women of the Year awards was founded 23 years ago by the late Betty Thompson. Sauder said

Thompson was involved in all aspects of the community. "She felt there should be awards for the community's unsung heroes," Sauder said.

"People who don't blow their own horns."

Since then, winners have included politicians Elizabeth Whitmer and Lynn Wolstencroft and writer Edna Stabler.

Sauder said that for anyone wanting to attend, it's a fun evening for \$13.

"It's really an upbeat, enjoyable evening. We get a high from all the accomplishments."

This year's event was sponsored by Molson Breweries, Zehrs Markets and Sears.

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Community events

Oktoberfest has tradition in K-W

German roots deep in local culture

By Casey Johnson

The history of Oktoberfest, at least from the German point of view, tends to vary from source to source.

Robert Capa said the Oktoberfest celebration began with the shoemakers, the carpenters and the brewers of Munich inviting the peasants of Bavaria to celebrate the harvest. This all happened at the end of Second World War and the Nazi regime on the last Sunday in September, thus it was called the October festival.

Others suggest that five years after the war, all the high and low commissions agreed that this was the kind of celebration needed to show the spirit of the new Germany. It apparently began with the Friedensfest, then the Saengerfest and grew into the fest of October.

Another version suggests, "Oktoberfest was first conceived in 1810 when a Bavarian soldier, Franz Baumgartner, suggested horse races be held in Munich to celebrate the wedding of Ludwig, a 24-year-old crown prince of Bavaria. In 1811 agricultural exhibits were added and "Das Oktoberfest" was born," according to the 1970 Oktoberfest program. The beer tents were then added in 1818.

No matter what the true history is, one thing is for sure. Oktoberfest in Berlin (now Kitchener) began in 1969. It is a German and Austrian holiday, and North America's largest Bavarian festival. Darwin Clay was its first president, and that first Oktoberfest dispensed 258,780 litres (57,000 gallons) of beer and 22,500 kilograms (50,000 lbs) of sausage.

Going back to 1951, the founding meeting of the German and Canadian Alliance met in Kitchener six years after Hitler's reign. They proclaimed its purpose to be: "the furthering of the German tradition, speech, song, music, literature and sport and the promotion of better understanding between Germans and Canadians by acquainting both with each other's culture and traditions."

German settlers originally came to Canada in 1750. Nova Scotia's governor, Col. Edward Cornwallis, asked England to send him some German or Swiss immigrants because of their farming ability. The immigrants were offered free land and a year's support. A reported 312 immigrants came over and 1500 followed.

The expression "Gemutlichkeit" is still Oktoberfest's motto. It means "eat, drink and enjoy" or "warm fellowship."

Oktoberfest plays host to over 5 million tourists during the 10-day festival and generates millions of dollars in revenue for the community and service clubs.

It is the celebration of the German heritage and the celebration of German traditions.



Top Left —
A 19th Century display of Bavarian dress at the King Ludwig Castle museum.

(Photo by Ian Palmer)

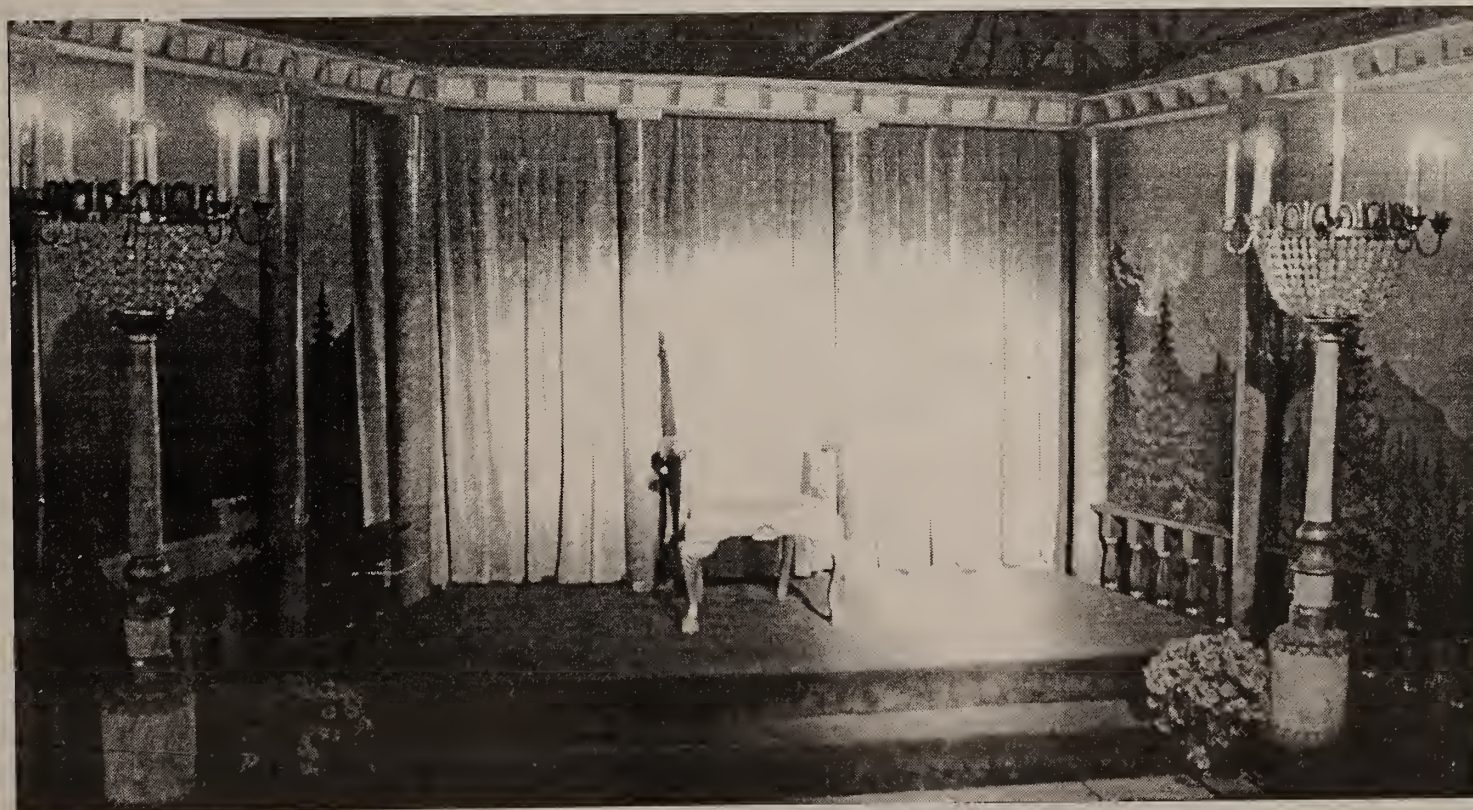


Bottom —
The King Ludwig Castle museum has been an Oktoberfest landmark since 1985.

(Photo by Ian Palmer)

Top Right —
Participants in the Thanksgiving Day parade spontaneously dance on King Street.

(Photo by Natalie Schneider)



Community events

Discover days gone by at the Schneider Haus

By Richard Berta

"Over one, under two, pull it tight and then you're through," Roberta Groslane said as she braided seven strands of straw into a hat.

"You have to have an odd number of straws when you're braiding," she added.

This little exercise revealed that little, if anything, was wasted in homesteads of the 19th century.

The life of that era could be rediscovered by visiting the Joseph Schneider Haus during the Oktoberfest Erntefest (Harvest Festival).

During the festival, staff were dressed in clothes reminiscent of the last century and perform chores typical of the period.

The rustic white house stands out from its location on Queen Street South in Kitchener and was built by the Schneiders in 1816. According to Groslane, the wood frame of the house was completed within a day, in a style reminiscent of barn raising.

The Schneider Haus was opened to the public in 1981.

Steve Maver, weekend supervisor at the Haus, following an Oktoberfest theme, explained how beer and wine were made.

"We recently made some spruce beer" he said. "Spruce beer is made from the needles of a spruce tree," Maver said.

"It's a non-alcoholic beer, which children may drink."

"We also made elderberry wine and parsnip wine, which tastes better than it sounds," Maver said.

After the juice is compressed, it is placed in large barrels and left to ferment in the sun, he concluded.

Wine-making was just one out of a



Christine Carter of Goderich learns to make sauerkraut during a Joseph Schneider Haus harvest theme presentation. (Photo by Andrea Bailey)

myriad of things families would do in the 19th century.

On the sober side, they would make their own dye in order to dye the clothing, said by Becky Ackford, teacher-interpreter at the Haus.

The clothing itself was also made by hand from wool.

Ackford was tending to two large kettles heating on a wood stove. In one kettle there were some crushed seeds being prepared for a dye, and in the other, wool boiling in a combination of water and a chemical called alum in preparation for a dye bath.

Ackford said the purpose of the wool being placed in the combination of boiling water and alum was to open its pores so that it could

later absorb the dye.

"The wool would first be sheared, then processed, then sent to a weaver or sewn by the family," Ackford said.

The family's entire wardrobe could be made in this way.

Examples of dyed wool were hanging from the wooden beams in the attic.

Hanging alongside the wool was an assortment of herbs, some used for dyeing, others for insect repellent and yet others for medicinal purposes.

"Families would make their own medicines from herbs in their garden," Maver said.

"They would also rely on 'quack' medicines (medicines with alcohol and dubious healing qualities) which would make them feel better," he said.

Through the re-enactment, the Schneider Haus was continuing in a tradition of providing an enjoyable, authentic and occasionally whimsical reproduction of the past to visitors throughout Erntefest.

Community gives more than thanks

By Greg Bisch

Every year, Thanksgiving Day in Kitchener-Waterloo comes during the twin cities' famous Oktoberfest.

While some are content to give thanks for various alcoholic beverages and good German food, others concentrate on giving to those less fortunate.

Among the latter is Mike Gentile, a local chartered financial consultant.

Gentile was the chair of the 1997 Onkel Hans Food Drive, held during the Thanksgiving Day Parade Oct. 13.

"The food drive was an excellent success, the best by far," said Gentile.

"I'm very enthusiastic about the results."

The food drive collected 9,500 kilograms of non-perishable foods and an additional \$13,000 in funds, said Gentile.

Last year's drive collected 13,500 kg of food and \$11,000.

Many others supported the food drive during the parade including on-air radio personalities from CYHM and KOOL FM, he said.

Zehrs markets supplied shopping carts, which were pushed through the parade by approximately 120 volunteers from Oktoberfest and K-W Minor Soccer to collect the items, said Gentile.

All proceeds from the food drive went to the Foodbank of Waterloo Region.

Food bank employee Martin Snead explained what is done

with the collected food.

"The food collected is distributed among 31 different charity agencies we support in the Waterloo Region," said Snead. "These are organizations such as St. John's Soup Kitchen and Alselma House."

Snead said the food bank was still receiving donations from the Thanksgiving Food Drive as of Oct. 14.

Givers throughout the community put non-perishable foods in food drive boxes set in grocery stores and all fire halls across the region.

"We don't collect as much as some of the other fire halls," said Captain Neil Farwell of the Pioneer Road fire hall.

"We collect about half a box daily of dry goods. People just drive up."

As well, things seem to be getting busier every year at the Oktoberfest Charity Bazaar at Conestoga Mall, said Conestoga Mall marketing director Lisa Petrusaitis.

This year marks the 13th consecutive year the mall has held the event.

About 26 local charities and church groups sell everything from baked goods to quilts at the function in an attempt to raise money for a good cause, said Petrusaitis.

"It is extremely successful," she said. "We were already getting calls back in February from organizations wanting to participate in the Oktoberfest Charity Bazaar."

Everyone pitches in Volunteers make festival

By Ian S. Palmer

Although Oktoberfest lasts only nine days, it takes year-round planning to make it successful.

Hundreds of volunteers put forth their time and effort to make sure the festival proceeds trouble-free.

Tracy Peckford, 32, of Cambridge, is one of those volunteers. Peckford works for the Oktoberfest accreditation committee, whose main concern is visiting the festhalls to ensure they are following proper procedures.

"We go around and check the washrooms and make sure the proper food and alcohol is being served, as well as checking on the entertainment," said Peckford.

"The halls all have procedures to follow and our committee just makes sure they are doing what they're supposed to."

She said any halls found to be straying from the rules would be politely reminded of their obligations. "They don't get rapped on the fingers but they would be told. If a hall was found to be serving minors though, they would be reported to the Liquor Control Board and fined."

Peckford said Oktoberfest halls pay fees to the

accreditation committee based on their size and the number of days they are open. Halls that are open from five to nine days pay the hall capacity times \$6.60 times the number of days open. The smaller, less busy halls pay admissions times \$1.65 times days open.

These fees are collected by Oct. 31 by K-W Oktoberfest Inc. and are then distributed to over 70 charities and non-profit organizations in the region.

Peckford said local restaurants and hotels may also pay fees to the committee in return for advertising and promotion. "We try to get hospitality centres to join because our main objective is to promote the festival. Everybody is doing it to support the event because it is a great boost to the economy in this area."

Peckford said she worked on the lottery committee for three years before switching to the accreditation group, where she has volunteered for the last five years.

"The committee meets once a month starting in February and is run by a chairperson and vice-chairperson."

She said the chairperson assigns halls to the volunteers to check each year. "The halls are split into three groups. Ones that hold under

600 people, those that hold over 600 and the German clubs, which include the Concordia, Alpine, Schwaben, Hubertushaus, and Transylvania clubs. I have the German clubs this year."

Peckford said she usually visits two or three clubs on the nights she goes out and each volunteer is assigned a liaison club, which are visited more often.

"When we visit the clubs we give them a mark, because at the end of the festival awards are given to the winners in each category. This keeps them up to snuff."

Some nights, though, are more taxing than others, said Peckford. "When you are dealing with 1,200 people drinking in one area, fights and stupidity can obviously become a problem. But security at the halls is good and any commotion is handled properly."

She said some people think Oktoberfest is just one big drinking bash and don't realize all of the cultural and family events which go into the festival.

"Running Oktoberfest is a year-round job for many people because of the diverse events involved. The marketing committee is already working on next year's festival."

Community events

Long live the king . . .

King Ludwig II of Bavaria, who reigned from 1864 to 1886, may be long gone, but his spirit lives on during Oktoberfest at the corner of King and Benton streets.

By Ian S. Palmer

Since 1985, King Ludwig's Castle Museum has been giving the public an opportunity to view a piece of Bavarian history. The museum is a replica based on the Neuschwanstein Castle in Bavaria.

Inside, the museum houses paintings of the original castle along with items of clothing and military uniforms from the Ludwig era.

There is also a display set up that replicates the castle's throne room along with schoolchildren's paintings of Oktoberfest themes.

The museum is a replica based on the Neuschwanstein Castle in Bavaria.

Dianne Eckert, a volunteer worker at the museum, said the castle also shows the life and times of Ludwig and the history of Oktoberfest in skit form, put on by volunteers.

"There is a short skit which is put on, mainly for school tours, which can be booked by calling the Oktoberfest office. We also do the performances when there is a demand for them, which is usually on the weekends when we are busy."

The performance times are written on a board at the castle's entrance. Craig Feehan, a volunteer, said the castle was completely refurbished in 1993 with money donated from J. M. Schneider Inc.

He said the castle opened on Oct. 3, 1985 and was designed by Earl Stieler. The castle is stored in a warehouse the rest of the year and is erected in about a day, he said. The museum pieces are set up once the castle is in place.

King Ludwig's Castle Museum is open daily throughout Oktoberfest from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission is free.

Lindsey Quinn (left) and Adam Benjamin perform the Story of Oktoberfest and King Ludwig II for children at King Ludwig's Castle.

(Photo by Amy Sonnenberg)



King Ludwig's Castle on Benton Street in Kitchener.

(Photo by Amy Sonnenberg)

Community events



The Enzian Dancers from Timmins, Ont., perform a ribbon dance at the 29th annual Oktoberfest Trachtenfest at the Kitchener Memorial Auditorium Complex. (Photo by Becky Little)

Folk dancing gets feet tapping

By Becky Little

What is Trachtenfest?

Tracht is a folk costume, translated from the German language, and Trachtenfest is a festival of folk dancing. The Oktoberfest event was winner of the best cultural event award in 1989 and 1993.

The Kitchener-Waterloo Kinsmen and Kinette Club hosted the 20th annual Trachtenfest, Sunday October 12, at the Kitchener Memorial Auditorium Complex from noon to 6 p.m.

It is a family event that offered activities, such as face painting, a fish pond and a bean bag toss, to occupy the children between dances. There was also an elephant giveaway, thanks to Funware Inc.,

who donated four large stuffed toy elephants to be won by kids 12-years-old and under.

Pretzels were on sale along with candy apples and Oktoberfest sausage.

There was 480 people at Trachtenfest, said Bob Stevenson, who works in the auditorium event services department.

Joanne Fitzgerald and Veronika Mitchell organized Trachtenfest. Fitzgerald said attendance was up from previous years. Fitzgerald has been part of the Kinettes for 17 years, and has been helping to organize Trachtenfest for the past 10 years. She said the best thing about the festival is that it gives the community an opportunity to see ethnic dancing at its finest.

She said there are 100 volunteers

who work at the festival and all money raised goes back into the community.

Between dancers, the musical group the Saxons provided music in both English and German. Members of the band are John Frim, drums and vocals; Rob Kauntz, accordion and keyboard; Karl Wolf, trumpet and MC; John Frederiksen, guitar; and Dave Emrich, bass guitar.

Among the performing groups were the Schwaben dancers, who performed German-style dances, the Schwaben Club Kindergruppe, which consists of children ages 4 to 15 and the Pryvit (welcome in Ukrainian) Ukrainian dancers, who range in age from 5 to 17. The Enzian dancers from Timmins is a group of young girls who

perform folk dances from different regions of Germany. This year they performed the ribbon dance and played the song Edelwiess on cowbells.

The Transylvania Club danced to various polkas and the Alpine dancers performed Austrian and German folk dances.

Uncle Bill's Country Line Dancers featured Uncle Bill Gunther who gathered a crowd at the end of the stage and taught them all how to line dance in a matter of minutes. The dances taught included the Georgia Peach and the Alabama.

Studio D performing group gave a performance of modern dance and Mrs. King's School of Voice highlighted the afternoon with songs celebrating Oktoberfest.

Pinocchio brings variety to festival

By Hunter Malcolm

In its second year of contributing to Oktoberfest, the Canadian Ballet Youth Ensemble's production of Pinocchio offers audiences an opportunity to enjoy the efforts of some of Canada's finest young dancers.

Having run Oct. 3 in Brantford's Sanderson Centre, a largely young audience was kept well entertained by the fast paced interpretation of the classic fairy tale.

The CBYE's founder and artistic director, 40-year-old Vitek Wincza, who has spent almost 27 years in the field of ballet and who produced this particular adaption, said the ensemble's dances offer Oktoberfest a good contrast to some of the events more commonly associated with it.

"These fairy tales, as portrayed through dance, give the festival a little extra color," he said. "There is a sense of gentleness and family spirit about them."

As the mission statement of the ensemble reads, its aim is "to give talented young dancers the opportunity to perform with top professional dancers, musicians and choreographers and to work with the community to bring the arts and culture to all ages at affordable prices."

Wincza said he is passionate about his grass roots approach to his productions and said he goes by four principle components by which to centre his work.

"I attempt to provide the promotion of the arts as culture, to be entertaining in doing so, to be educational and to include good human values," he said.

These standards are met effectively in Pinocchio by Wincza and his cast of almost 30, who range in age from 12 to 19. The young dancers give the awkwardness the stick figure feels an innocent integrity.

To the original music score composed by Eric Cadesky, the tale's namesake character, played by Marq Frerichs, goes through the trials of developing a caring heart by which he may become a real boy.

Cadesky is known for his own music ensemble which performs on over half a ton of glass instruments.

Pinocchio is scheduled to play The Centre In The Square on Oct. 16. Tickets are \$12.50 for seniors and children under 12, and \$16.50 for adults.



The Transylvania Club performs at Trachtenfest Oct. 12. The folk dancing festival was held at Karlsburghaus. (Photo by Becky Little)

Community events

Lighter Side never the same show twice

By Rita Fatila

Seeing the Lighter Side of Oktoberfest twice can be two different experiences.

The collection of comedy skits, which is in its 13th year, not only changes from year to year, but from night to night.

"If you were to come on Friday and come again on Saturday, you might not see changes," says Richard Reid, producer of The Lighter Side, "but they're there."

The show's cast began writing for this year's show after Labor Day, said Lighter Side actor Martin Illingworth, but haven't stopped tinkering with the skits yet.

"Once we take the play on stage, quite a few changes are made, like improv, until the last minute."

An Oct. 9 dress rehearsal in front of a select audience gave the cast an opportunity to gauge their performance before this year's debut Oct. 10.

"This is a very important part of the show. These," said Reid, pointing at the audience, "are the guinea pigs. If they don't laugh, we cry all night."

The audience did laugh, as cast members Illingworth, Susan Reid, Katrina Maugham, Domenic DiGravio and Kevin Fox skewered everything from education cutbacks to Elvis for two hours.

"It's sort of like Saturday Night Live," said Ursula Wyman, who



From left — Martin Illingworth, Katrina Maugham, Domenic DiGravio, Susan Reid and Keven Fox, the cast of The Lighter Side of Oktoberfest, sing at a dress rehearsal in the Victoria Park pavilion Oct. 9.

photographed Thursday's performance. "You keep seeing certain characters every year."

These characters included Violet, a woman dressed in purple who this year went to the Blue Jays' Fantasy Camp thinking it involved a different kind of fantasy.

National unity also provided comedy fodder as recurring character Captain Canada wrestled the

Blohead, a Francophone in a Nordiques jersey and helmet.

"We'll probably keep reworking the show," said George Kauntz, who provides the music for the play. "It won't be the same every night."

Wyman said the audience has an impact on what kind of show goes on.

"Different audiences provoke

different responses. Tuesday night is usually more sedate, while the weekend is more active."

Illingworth said while the mood of the audience helps, so does experience with the material. He said the cast gets better every night of The Lighter Side's run.

"By closing night we get the show we've been aiming for."

The play is an officially sanc-

tioned Oktoberfest event, but wasn't always, starting out as a comedy troupe that played a couple of dinner theatres.

When the troupe tried to rent out the Victoria Park pavilion for a show, a woman at City Hall suggested they take it during Oktoberfest and The Lighter Side of Oktoberfest was born.

"We add the Oktoberfest trappings," said Reid. "It's very much a success because of Oktoberfest."

Oktoberfest influences showed up in this year's show as the cast did a couple of numbers in lederhosen and German hats, at one point singing Do Your Boys Hang Low?

"The opening and closing of the show is always about Oktoberfest," said Reid.

It took about four years for The Lighter Side to start making money, he said, but the show has been a success ever since.

"We don't advertise and people call in February for 50 tickets."

The Lighter Side is a non-profit organization and gives proceeds from ticket sales to various charities, such as the Heart and Stroke Foundation and a foundation that gives palliative nursing grants.

But more important than money to The Lighter Side is friendship.

"We're all neighbors and friends," said Reid.

"We're regular people," said Illingworth, "just trying to get laughs from regular people."

Show player does it all in his head

Piano player uses improvisation to take show to another level

By Rita Fatila

One of the most important players in The Lighter Side of Oktoberfest isn't on the stage — he's in front of the piano.

Those involved with the show said they would be lost without George Kauntz, an improvising piano player who doesn't use sheet music.

"I can't afford sheet music," said Kauntz, who has been playing with the Lighter Side on and off for eight years.

Kauntz said his love of music started with his family. His parents sang in church and his two sisters played piano.

"My older sister played piano, so I was subjected to hearing her play. So from an early age I was listening to music."

Kauntz's musical background involves more than just the piano; he also learned a traditional Oktoberfest instrument growing up.

"I started the accordion when I was seven," he said. "Everyone else was outside playing baseball and I had to play the accordion."

Kauntz now uses his accordion knowledge for The Lighter Side.

"You have to have an accordion for Oktoberfest!"

"He takes our show to a whole other level. It's black-and-white before and George puts us in color."

Martin Illingworth, Lighter Side actor, on George Kauntz

Besides accordion lessons, Kauntz's musical education included a diploma from the jazz program at Humber College.

His ability to improvise, he said, is also something that had to be learned.

"You have to know modes

and intervals, unless you're one of the few people with perfect pitch."

Kauntz also said anyone can learn to play by ear.

"If you can sing a song off the radio, you're singing by ear, so chances are you can play by ear too."

"I think you need a classroom with 30 bathtubs because everyone sings in the shower."

Since he plays with an improvisational troupe, Kauntz, who has played for theatres, bands, bars and minstrel groups, said his ability comes in handy.

"The thing about not needing sheet music is if there's some room for improvisation you can take it as it comes."

While Kauntz might not be impressed with his talent, others are.

"He takes our show to a whole other level," said actor Martin Illingworth. "It's black-and-white before and George puts us in color."

"He's been here for four



George Kauntz plays piano, keyboards and accordion for The Lighter Side of Oktoberfest.

(Photo by Rita Fatila)

years now and we don't want to lose him," said producer Richard Reid.

Kauntz, who played with a touring Second City troupe, only has good things to say about the Lighter Side.

"I got my first union card playing with a comedy

troupe so this feels like coming home for me."

This year's show is running better than shows from past years, Kauntz said.

"I think this year is the farthest we've been from emotional breakdown."

"It's seamless this year. It's really inspiring how everyone comes together like a jigsaw puzzle."

Kauntz credits the tight-knit Lighter Side players for the ability to put on a smooth-running act.

"Everybody has been here before and we know each other really well."

When not playing for the Lighter Side, Kauntz, who spent much of the past eight years touring in Europe, works in computer retail.

"This is the first year I've stopped being a 100 per cent professional musician. I needed a break."

But even with his day job and musical work, Kauntz still has further ambitions.

"When I grow up I'd like to be a composer," he smiles.

Goin' out drinking

The Zentrum of attention

By Barbara Ateljevic

The Willkommen Zentrum, located on Frederick Street opposite Market Square, is a main attraction at this year's Oktoberfest.

Whether just stopping in for a pitcher of beer or a bite to eat, it is the entertainment hotspot.

Open daily from Oct. 10 to 18, the Zentrum has a packed entertainment schedule. Admission to the events is free.

The Rolling Steins, a local band, kicked off the opening ceremonies with fun polka songs and took requests from the audience.

Dressed in traditional Bavarian clothing, the Steins are playing at the Zentrum all week and are sponsored by the Brick Brewing Company.

Other main bands included Living Glockenspiel and The Jim Show, which, on some days, play up to three



The Rolling Steins kicked off the opening festivities in the Willkommen Zentrum Oct. 11.

(Photo by Barbara Ateljevic)

times a day.

The manager of the event, Paul McArdle, said he expected the Zentrum to be packed full of people.

Right after opening on Oct. 10 at noon, the place had

almost filled with adults and children stopping by for lunch and entertainment. Pitchers of beer flowed and a variety of food, including

hotdogs, sausages, sauerkraut and pastry desserts,

were offered. The Zentrum featured a biergarten and offered live entertainment on an outdoor stage on week-

ends. A variety of displays was also set up by some of the

festival sponsors, such as Schneider's and Molson Canadian.

Oktoberfest souvenirs were being sold at some tables, including mugs, key chains and t-shirts.

A whirlwind tour of the festhallen

By Dan Meagher and Matt Harris

There is one thing that stands out as the heart of the festival. One thing that is undeniably Oktoberfest — the Festhallen.

Kitchener-Waterloo features a wide variety of these halls that serve up food, drink, music, drink, fun and drink. They are the spirit of Oktoberfest, and without them, everything else seems trivial.

On Oktoberfest's opening night, Friday, Oct. 10, the festhallen were particularly active. Bingeman's Park in Kitchener was for the somewhat older crowd. A lively oompah band, led by George Cash, whipped up a frenzy of Oktoberfest cheer in the large hall.

Don Doerner, who attended the party with Mona Swan, said even though it was one of many Oktoberfests for him, it was Swan's first.

"I come for the atmosphere," said Doerner. "It's a good time with the music and friends." Andrei Toth seconded the motion, even though he isn't much of an Oktoberfest person. "I just came to have a little fun, but I'm not a big party person," he said.

At the Waterloo club, The Revolution, also known as Twist N' Hausen, the dance floor was somewhat like a Leafs game; there was no one there. The atmosphere was much more regular club-like, but picked up a little as time wore on.

Chris Schmid, who attended this venue, said, "I live for Oktoberfest. It's the only time my friends come to the bar with me." Perhaps Schmid should have tried

Queensmount as well. A packed house of mostly college-aged Oktoberfesters witnessed a wild party, and were entertained by none other than polka king Walter

entourage dropped in for a visit to participate in Queensmount's ceremonial keg tapping with Onkel Hans and his crew. Amanda Lehman, of Kitchener, said that



The ceremonial keg-tapping preparations at Queensmount Arena.

(Photo by Matt Harris)

Ostaneck, who told the crowd, "I drank so long to your health I ruined my own." Miss Oktoberfest, Danica Quinn, and her

she likes the location because "it's a good opportunity to get out and see everyone."

A tip for the aspiring photographer; taking your camera along to a festhall is a good way to make a couple of bucks. Nearly every other reveller wanted to know how much a picture would cost them.

A few blocks away, at the Concordia Club, the atmosphere was not quite as friendly. In fact, your fearless Spoke reporters were thwarted in several daring attempts to gain entry. Club officials cited capacity crowds as the reason, which was evidenced by the large line-ups outside the massive tent.

People were, however, much more accommodating at the relatively small Schwaben Club in Kitchener. The energetic, all-ages crowd danced up a storm at the traditional German club, accompanied by the music of the club's house band.

The percentage of people in German dress increased significantly at the Schwaben Club and it seemed like it had harnessed the true meaning of Oktoberfest (assuming there is one), more so than some of the other venues.

A final stop at the medium-sized Transylvania Club near downtown Kitchener topped off a fascinating evening. Surprise! Yet another oompah band. As it was late in the evening, the alcohol had removed the inhibitions of most attendees and the dance floor was fairly crowded.

An evening that involved Miss Oktoberfest, a fat German guy with an orange head, a keg tapping, a fight over a parking space, 18 renditions of "Ein Prosit" and even the Macarena. So even though the evening was spent as a sober one, what more could one ask for?

Goin' out drinking

Cabbage to cumin Crazy concoctions combat hangovers

By Ian S. Palmer

No matter how hard you try to prevent it, nearly everybody will suffer through one during their lifetime. No, not marriage, but something almost as bad. Your head will feel like it is being used as a speed bag by Mike Tyson. Your stomach feels as if it is being tossed around by a raging ocean, and your mouth is as dry as an Arizona desert. It is, of course, the dreaded hangover.

It doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out what causes this infamous curse. It is simply from drinking too much alcohol.

Mix eight ounces of carrot juice with one ounce of beet juice, four ounces of celery juice and one ounce of parsley juice. If the alcohol doesn't make you throw up, this concoction probably will.

And the chances of experiencing one increase significantly after five or more drinks, especially when they're consumed in a short period of time.

Research has shown that the alcohol and the lactic acid that builds up as the alcohol is metabolized are responsible for the nausea, headaches and irritability one suffers. The thirst is a result of alcohol's diuretic effect, increasing one's need to urinate.

Other contributors to a hangover may be the congeners in the alcohol. Congeners are by-products of distilling and fermenting. Usually the hangover worsens with the amount of congeners consumed. Vodka and gin have the fewest amounts of congeners, while bourbon and red wine contain more. This could explain why we never see James Bond hurting the next day.

The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke in London, England, says a hangover is also a mild version of alcohol withdrawal syndrome where the alcohol has a relaxing effect on the blood vessels. As they relax, they open up and accommodate more blood. But if the blood vessels in the head open too much, they trigger nerve activity, causing pain.

Now we know what hangovers are and how they are caused, we obviously want to know how to prevent or cure them.

Some people take aspirin before going to bed or upon waking to relieve the pounding in the head, but it doesn't decrease the amount of alcohol in the body. Some people think eating a meal will absorb the alcohol. However, food doesn't absorb alcohol. Alcohol remains in your system until your body can metabolize it (about 1/3 ounce per hour). A cold shower will just create a wide-awake drunk and caffeine can actually cause further headaches.

It seems the only cure for a hangover is time, but everybody and their uncle has a sure-fire remedy for one. These are some preventatives and cures that were picked up from the Internet.

1. Don't mix grape (wine and cognac) with grain (beer and whiskey).

2. Try not to smoke, it will make you want to drink more. Alcohol makes veins and arteries expand and nicotine makes them contract.

3. Drink water throughout the night and before going to bed, as alcohol

dehydrates the body.

4. Take honey because it speeds alcohol metabolism.

5. Take vitamin C, it neutralizes the effects of alcohol.

6. Eat breakfast the next day. Alcohol stimulates the production of insulin, which reduces blood sugar levels. A balanced breakfast will counteract this.

7. The ancient Greeks swore by eating cabbage.

8. Mix four ounces of water with the juice of half a lemon and a drop of Fennel Essential Oil.

9. Stir a teaspoon of lime juice and a pinch of cumin into a glass of orange juice.

10. A homeopathic remedy is a pill called "Nux Vomica", available in health food stores. Take tablets every three to four hours as needed.

11. Fresh juices flush the system of toxins and rehydrate your body. Mix eight ounces of carrot juice with one ounce of beet juice, four ounces of celery juice and one ounce of parsley juice. If the alcohol doesn't make you throw up, this concoction probably will.

With Oktoberfest here again it may be hard to stay away from drinking altogether, but there are a few ways to avoid the morning after meltdown. Try drinking slowly and limit yourself to one drink per hour or dilute your drinks. Another option is alternating alcoholic drinks with non-alcoholic drinks or water.

A word of warning — doctors say somebody who consumes large amounts of alcohol and doesn't suffer any hangover symptoms may be suffering something worse — a serious alcohol problem.

Hangovers may raise risk of heart attacks

By Ian S. Palmer

When you wake up the next morning or afternoon with a hangover from a long hard night of drinking, you may be doing more damage to your body than you realize.

The Institute of Alcohol Studies in England have completed research that shows regular hangovers can have a detrimental effect on the heart.

The study says, with as little as one hangover a month, there is a greater risk of dying of stroke or heart attack.

"Heavy drinking remains one of the leading avoidable causes of death," said Dr. Jussi Kauhanen, in a recent issue of the journal *Epidemiology*. "The current results indicate that preventative actions should focus not only on total consumption, but also on the way people drink."

The study of 2,160 middle-aged Finnish men reported those who suffered a hangover at least once a month had more than twice the risk of dying of heart attack or

stroke during the next 6 1/2 years, compared with men who had fewer hangovers.

Recent studies have found that while alcohol can protect against heart disease, this is based on moderate intake, which is considered one drink a day for women and two for men.

"Hangover represents a state of physiologic and metabolic stress in the body," said Kauhanen, of the University of Kuopio in Finland.

The researchers said the splitting headache, nausea and dry mouth experienced after a bout of heavy drinking are signs of acute exposure to alcohol and its metabolites. Such compounds cause the heart rate and blood pressure to rise, which, theoretically, may contribute to heart disease.

At moderate levels, alcohol has been shown to reduce the stickiness of platelets, which are cells involved in blood clotting. The new study, though, suggests the heart-healthy benefits of alcohol rapidly disappear with increasing consumption.



Amy Beck (left), Laurie Kemper (centre) and Mandy Bellaire celebrate Oktoberfest's opening night at the Queensmount arena. (Photo by Matt Harris)

Gemütlichkeit!



Photo by Rachel Pearce

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This special edition of Spoke is brought to you by:

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